The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1897.

The Week.

The Ohio Gold Democrats showed on Thursday that they have both courage and convictions to base it on. If a platform alone were to be voted on in Ohio, theirs ought to have the best chance of winning, as it is incomparably better than either of the others. It is the Indianapolis platform brought down to date, with the Dingley bill to give fresh point to the demand for taxation for revenue only, the lavish appropriations to the demand for economy, the action of President McKinley (which the platform praises) to the demand for civil-service reform, and the Hawaiian annexation treaty to the demand for a peaceful foreign policy. All told, the platform is a model of political principles fitted to the crying needs of the hour. Whether the ticket nominated secures many or few votes, the Gold Democrats of Ohio have at least raised a standard to which honest men may rally.

The Ohio campaign was formally "opened" on Saturday, and one reads the speeches in vain to find a clear note of political leadership or courage. Of Senator Hanna's performance it is enough to say that it explains his praise of the Senate and his indignant denial that it has degenerated. The school-boy style and low tone of this speech of one of the great men of the modern Senate show how its own standards of judgment are vitiated. The very denial of decay is proof of decay. To make the exhibition of Republican harmony in Ohio complete, ex-Secretary Foster, who made such a lamentable bankruptcy under the Wilson bill, was brought out as a striking evidence of what the Dingley bill has done to restore prosperity. He undertook to hurl back two falsehoods, one of which was that the funds began to run low before Harrison went out, and that he, Foster, had made all his preparations to issue bonds. This falsehood, he complains, has been so many times repeated that even Republicans have believed it. So they have, including those Republican bankers in this city with whom Mr. Foster discussed his intended operation, and including also those Republican officials in the Treasury who were surprised when the orders to prepare bonds were countermanded. Mr. Foster's denial lacks something of completeness. The way he meets the charge that he prepared to sell bonds is by asserting that the revenue was sufficient to pay expenses. But if the issue of bonds was contemplated in order to fortify the imperilled gold reserve, or as a general measure of precaution, then this denial does not deny. Mr. Foster must be more explicit if he really means to set right all the financial historians of the period in question.

During the recent session of Quay's Legislature, the Republican machine insisted upon padding the pay-rolls with the names of many "runners" and "heelers," who were to be paid out of the public treasury for partisan work. Quay's creatures in the Senate and House did not shrink from passing bills appropriating money for this purpose, and the State Treasurer was called upon for the amounts allowed to these fictitious and unlawful employees. This official suspected that the Governor might not be so complaisant to the boss as the legislators had been, and he refused to pay any of these illegitimate allowances until a lot of prominent Republican politicians had given him a $20,000 bond to indemnify him if the Executive should veto the padded list, as in due course of time he did. One of the names on this bond was that of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Gen. Frank Reeder, and Gov. Hastings has very properly forced the resignation of a man who thus showed himself ready to condone fraud upon the public treasury. Another State official, Deputy Attorney-General Elkin, has had to resign for the same reason. It is obvious that political motives reinforced the dictates of propriety in leading the Governor to force these retirements. Both the offending officials have been Quay men, and anti-Quay men are reported to be slated as their successors. Indeed, Gov. Hastings has thrown a cloud over the motives for his action by offering the secretaryship to Dave Martin, one of the most unscrupulous Republican politicians in Philadelphia, whose appointment is a disgrace to the State. The gossips hold that this is only the first step in an organized movement for the overthrow of Quay, in which Chris Magee of Pittsburgh is to join. Unhappy Republicans of Pennsylvania, who have to choose only between Quay and a Martin-Magee "combine"!

The architects' competition to secure the best plans for the new Pennsylvania State-house has come to grief. It is the old story of politicians being so much more expert than the experts. The architectural experts recommended any one of eight plans, having rejected thirty. This at once alarmed the politicians on the building commission. Why were any plans rejected? Especially why were any plans of friends of theirs rejected? It was all very well for the experts to say the rejected plans did not comply with the conditions, or were obviously inferior. It was not at all obvious to the Commissioners, who proceeded, by a vote of 4 to 1, to kick the report of the experts out of doors, and to invite architects to resubmit their plans to the Commissioners direct. This action was taken only after Gov. Hastings, himself a member of the commission, had pointed out that it would be an act of bad faith towards the experts and the public and an insult to every architect. But what did the commission care about that? They knew that it would not be regarded as an insult by "a certain architect," whose plans, it was freely charged, they were determined to approve and adopt, despite the adverse decision of the experts.

We consider it a most fortunate thing for this city that Richard Croker should have returned from abroad to reassume control of the Tammany forces, just at this time. He landed at the very moment when the long contest between Senator Platt and the Citizens' Union reached its crisis. Public attention had been concentrated for many weeks upon the frantic efforts of the Republican boss to convince the Citizens' Union that it had no right to take away from him, or to exercise without his permission, the power of making nominations. He was insisting, and his arguments and threats filled many columns of the newspapers daily, that unless he was allowed to name the candidates first, the party organization which he controlled would not only refuse to accept them, but would put up other candidates, and thus make the triumph of good government impossible. Meanwhile, the extraordinary reception given to the newly landed Tammany boss by the press and politicians called public attention chiefly to one great fact, namely, that he not only claimed the right of nomination for the Tammany forces, and for the entire Democratic party, but that his complete possession of this right was conceded. What were the Democratic voters who were so exacting in their demands about the avoidance of all contamination with Republican boss rule, going to do about this? Would they submit to that in their own party which they had declared to be so odious in the Republican party? In this, Croker has performed a public service of incalculable value. He has done even more than Platt to justify the course of the Citizens' Union, for he has shown to Democrats as well as to Republicans that there can be no honest rule of the city, no real good government, except through the election of

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

candidates on the plan proposed and followed by the Citizens' Union.

Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire confesses his intellectual poverty in his reply to Carl Schurz, by drawing the chief part of his material from the works of the late James G. Blaine and those of another writer whose name is not given. It is within the memory of the present generation that Mr. Blaine was the Republican nominee for the Presidency in 1884, and that Mr. Schurz made a speech opposing his election on the ground that he had used his office as Speaker of the House to make money for himself. It is a matter of history that many Republicans at that time believed the charge (which did not rest upon Mr. Schurz's say-so), and that they voted against him in such numbers as to defeat him. Subsequently Mr. Blaine wrote his book, 'Twenty Years in Congress,' or that part of it which gives his opinions of Mr. Schurz. Favorable mention could not be expected under the circumstances. We do not know where Gallinger was at that time. He bloomed at a later date, but if he has any gift of original research, we commend for the subject of his next discourse the question who is the better friend of the Republican party—the one who warns it against putting up a vulnerable candidate (as Mr. Schurz did before the convention of that year was held), or the one who leads the party to a smashing defeat?

A writer in the Chicago *Times-Herald* claims for Congressman Tawney of Minnesota the honor of getting the discriminating clause against Canadian railroads inserted in the Dingley bill, saying that "he is execrated by the Canadian Pacific Road, but there are those in this country who say he is one of the greatest and shrewdest statesmen in America, and that he richly deserves to be President of the United States before he dies." This, we presume, is the utterance of an irresponsible reporter. The Chicago *Times-Herald* is conducted with some reference to the moral aspects of public questions, and we cannot believe that it defends the practice of passing bills in Congress by stealth, and then rewarding the tricksters with the highest office in the gift of the people. Such a standard of merit for the Presidency would be the last reach of public depravity. It would be the signal for "shooting Niagara," so far as the American republic is concerned. It is admitted on all hands that this clause was not known to the Congress that passed it. Mr. Dingley says so in his ingenious explanation. He tells us that its purport was not known to the framers of it; that they were aiming at something altogether different, and were surprised when they found out the interpretation that might be put upon it. In other words, the Dingley explanation does not allow any merit or demerit to Tawney of Minnesota. It was simply a mistake. Yet we incline to the belief that no mistake was made, and it is very possible that Mr. Tawney may have been one of the tricksters, but he could not have been the chief trickster. There must have been a powerful influence behind him. All the corrupt and corruptible newspapers that have dealt with this question have ignored the method by which the clause was inserted in the bill, and have kept insisting that the clause itself was a good thing, whereas the question whether it was a good or a bad thing never was considered by Congress at all; and there lies the kernel of the whole controversy.

Another decision as to the use of public highways by strikers has been rendered by Judge McIlvain of Pennsylvania, who takes substantially the same view as Judge Goff of the United States Circuit Court in the West Virginia case. Judge McIlvain holds that workingmen have a right not only to strike, but to persuade others to follow their example. In pursuance of this purpose they may hold meetings, have parades, and march along a highway in such parades. But they have not a right to take virtual possession of a portion of a highway, which was the claim made by the strikers, in Pennsylvania as well as in West Virginia. "A parade," says Judge McIlvain, "confined to a limited piece of a public road before a pit mouth and under a tramway, repeated two or three times a day for ten days or two weeks, loses the characteristic of legitimate parade, and, when directed against the interests of the mine-owner over whose land the road passes, and indulged in contrary to his express command, is a trespass." The Judge also drew clearly the distinction between legitimate persuasion on the part of strikers and unlawful coercion, holding that language by which working miners are called scabs, blacklegs, black sheep, etc., and threats of personal violence should they not cease work, are designed to coerce and not to persuade, tend to create a breach of the peace and to provoke a personal conflict between two large bodies of men, and therefore cannot be asserted to be lawful persuasion. An injunction against the practice of such coercion before it has resulted in bloodshed is, in the Judge's opinion, a reasonable use of the power, and it is hard to see how any law-abiding citizen can suffer by it.

The collision at Hazleton, Pa., between a crowd of striking miners and a force commanded by the Sheriff of the county has given the sensational press one of the greatest opportunities it has ever had for reckless attempts to prejudice the standing of those charged with the administration of the laws and the maintenance of order. Newspapers of this type always take it for granted that the law-breakers are in the right, and shrink from no misrepresentation of the facts to make out a case against the officials. There will, of course, be a thorough investigation of this affair, but such an inquiry is not needed to show that a riotous body of men had already committed acts of violence and were on their way to commit more, that they were warned to stop by the Sheriff and refused to heed him, and that the exhibition of force which was made was the only thing that would have checked them. So far as can now be judged, the Sheriff only did his duty, and there would be less occasion to call out the militia if more sheriffs were like him, for ignorant foreigners, like those involved at Hazleton, would then know that it was as dangerous to resist the Sheriff as the troops.

The execution of a murderer in any State is not ordinarily a matter of concern to people living elsewhere in the country, but circumstances combined to make the hanging of Horace S. Perry at Decatur, Ga., on the 8th instant, a matter of wide significance. It has been charged, with too much reason, that no white man of property and influence in the South need fear that he would be put to death by the law for killing another man, but Perry was well-to-do and had been prominent enough in politics to have become Sheriff of his county. His crime was the cold-blooded murder of a young man whom he had hunted for two days, but his guilt was no greater than that of many other offenders who have either escaped conviction or received executive clemency after sentence. Gov. Atkinson deserves national recognition for the sturdiness with which he resisted the appeals that were made for Perry's pardon, culminating in what was obviously an afterthought invented by his wife, that the murderer was avenging a wrong done her, and so was the "defender of a woman's honor." The course of the Georgia Governor is in refreshing contrast with that of his namesake, Gov. Atkinson of West Virginia, who recently pardoned a murderer on this ground, and thus encouraged any man who has any sort of grievance against another to kill him, and set up a plea of this nature as a bar to punishment.

The full story of the pardon by President McKinley of Francis A. Coffin, the Indianapolis bank wrecker, only emphasizes the outrage of executive clemency in this case. In the summer of 1893 Haughey, President of the Indianapolis National Bank, Coffin, and two others were indicted for violation of the national banking laws in conducting the business of the bank, which they had brought to ruin. Haughey pleaded guilty

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

rather than stand trial; the other three were convicted upon trial, and Coffin was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary. Six days after he reached that institution he was released under an appeal to the Supreme Court, which resulted in the ordering of a second trial, after the customarily long delay. He was again found guilty, and was sentenced this time to eight years in prison from October 26, 1895. But another appeal to the Supreme Court was made on technical grounds, and he was allowed to remain at liberty until this was decided against him six months later. He has, therefore, really been confined little more than a year, and this brief imprisonment was made as nearly nominal as possible, his friends being allowed to furnish him whatever food he desired, and "all the privileges any man could ask" being granted him. Now this nominal punishment is cut short by the President, and he is to suffer nothing more for his share in the outrageous performances by which several hundred thousand dollars were obtained from the bank on worthless paper.

No wonder the annexationists in Hawaii are in a good deal of a flutter over the arrival of United States Senators and Representatives to take a near view of their "republic for annexation only." The ungrateful natives are preparing for the occasion a "monster petition," with incidental mass-meetings, to assert that their country was stolen from them by "a handful of rich and powerful whites," and that they do not want to be annexed. The worst of it is that most of the visiting statesmen are beet-sugar men. Now a beet-sugar American is almost certain to be pessimistic about the institutions of cane-sugar Hawaii. He will take very high ground on liberty and constitutional guarantees and the right of suffrage; and unless the Hawaiians are able to satisfy him on all these points, he will never consent to let the beet sugar grown by freemen suffer competition from the cane sugar of men who are not enjoying self-government. This is what makes the annexationists so nervous. Jingoes they can satisfy; big-navy men they can easily persuade that they are ripe for annexation; but they tremble under inspection by statesmen thoroughly grounded in the doctrines of representative government and beet sugar. To add to their perplexities, an election has to be held pretty soon, and the exhibition is not likely to be instructive. That good annexationist organ, the *Hawaiian Gazette*, thus worries over the prospect:

"The registration lists show that less than 2,700 men will cast the entire vote of the republic in the next election. This fact is significant. It cannot be concealed, and it will be freely used in the coming debate of the American Congress. He is assuredly a short-sighted man who believes that the enemies of annexation will not promptly use it. The natives have generally refused to register. So has that large and important body, the Portuguese."

The London *Economist* of September 4 takes a serious view of section 22 of the Dingley tariff in so far as it relates to its effect on British shipping. This clause provides that a discriminating duty of 10 per cent. shall be imposed on all goods imported in foreign vessels, except where such goods are entitled by treaty or convention [or any act of Congress] to be admitted at the same rate of duty as goods imported in vessels of the United States. This clause, including the words in brackets, was an old provision of law, reënacted at each general change of the tariff. It was accordingly a part of the Wilson tariff and also of the Dingley tariff as it passed the House. The bill was reported back by the finance committee to the Senate with the same clause, but while it was passing through the Senate Mr. Allison, who had charge of the bill, moved to strike out the words "or any act of Congress," and the motion was agreed to as though it were a matter of mere phraseology and were without other significance. At a later period, and while the bill was in conference, another change was made which was intended to impose the 10 per cent. discriminating duty on foreign goods brought into this country on Canadian railroads. Now the *Economist* learns that the striking out of those words makes a great difference to British shipping, since the only treaty on the subject between Great Britain and the United States is that of 1815, which provides that there shall be no discriminating duty on any articles "which are the growth, product, or manufacture of his Britannic Majesty's territories in Europe." There is no treaty on this subject, we believe, with France, Italy, or Austria. Consequently all goods imported in the vessels of these countries, as well as those of Great Britain which are not the growth, produce, or manufacture of the British islands or British possessions in Europe, may be liable to this discriminating duty. The Attorney-General is studying this paragraph as well as the one relating to Canadian railroads.

There already are signs that the Duke of York's visit has not had the political effect in Ireland that it was expected to have. There were crowds in the streets of Dublin when he arrived, there have been pleasant parties in all the country houses which he visited, and there has been in England a widespread belief that what Ireland really needed was more frequent visits from some member of the royal family and a "royal residence" in Ireland. This faith falls in thoroughly with the contemporary influence of society on politics in England. So many people there find the chief delight of life just now in associating with "royalties," and meeting "royalties" at balls, and being able to report what "the Duchess said to me," that it is not surprising that they expect the Irish to forget all their woes, past and present, when they see a royal duke and his wife driving through the country. The climax of this absurdity was reached at Limerick. A new line of steamers has been established on the Shannon. The Duke opened it, but for some days previously it was given out that something serious was to take place on the occasion, but was to be kept a secret till then. When it was revealed, it appeared the Duke had permitted the route of the boats to be called "The Duke of York's Route." The truth is, that it is too late to cure Ireland's troubles by any such devices. In the beginning of the century, it might have been possible for a royal devotion such as the Queen has shown to Scotland, to convert the Irish into loyal subjects, but the day has gone by. The Irish are past that stage in politics. The supposition is almost amusing when one reads some of the articles which appeared in the newspapers about Ireland when the Irish members refused to take part in the jubilee. The *Scotsman*, the leading Scotch Liberal Unionist journal, confessed the Irish had been a good deal oppressed and coerced in the past, but asked them with unconscious humor: "But did you not deserve it? If English statesmen had to coerce you, could they help it?"

Prince Bismarck has had a good deal to say about the Franco-Russian alliance, some of his remarks being in his well-known vein of lucidity tempered by cynicism, and now his newspaper organ declares that the alliance at any rate leaves the Dreibund unaltered. Yes, but how different the situation is from what it was when Bismarck first formed the Dreibund, and supplemented it by successful intrigues in a way to give Germany the primacy of Europe and leave France practically isolated. In addition to his league with Austria and Italy, he had his secret treaty with Russia; he had France and Italy by the ears over Tunis; he had France and England by the ears over Egypt. But what is the case now? It is Austria that has gone behind the Dreibund to make a secret treaty with Russia. Italy is so weakened that she counts for little, and has, besides, her secret treaty with England, making the Dreibund appear hollow from that side also. France and Italy are now on fairly good terms; there is a distinct *rapprochement* between France and England; and the Russian alliance is now an accomplished fact. The net result of all these changes is to make Germany the isolated Power, and to cede to Russia the first place in European diplomacy which had been Germany's from 1870 until William the Sudden broke with the man who had won it;

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

DEMOCRATIC PROSPECTS.

The Democrats of this State and of the East generally are in trouble regarding the platform and attitude of the party on national questions in the coming election. The regulars of New York who supported Bryan and free silver last year and were buried under an adverse majority of 287,000 (counting the Palmer and Buckner vote), are making signs here and there of returning animation. That they ever had any clear conception of the meaning of 16 to 1, or of the merits of the silver question generally, is not to be supposed. Such a supposition is negatived by the fact that they had adopted a platform in opposition to free silver before the Chicago convention was held, and turned around immediately after it. The only thing they understood or really cared for was adherence to party usage. Custom and discipline require that the party in each State shall endorse the national creed, whatever it may be. So they wheeled with the ease of veterans, and without the slightest sense of inconsistency or shame. They would have deemed it inconsistent and shameful not to do so.

Not all of the party, however, joined in performing the *volte-face*. Bryan's vote was 103,000 smaller than Cleveland's vote in 1892, and McKinley's was 210,000 larger than Harrison's in the latter year, and there were about 19,000 votes for Palmer and Buckner. It is safe to say that 100,000 Democrats voted for McKinley straight, in order to "take no chances," and that there are to-day at least 119,000 Democratic votes in the State which will never be cast for free silver directly or indirectly, and will never be found giving any encouragement to that heresy in national, State, or municipal elections. They are attached to their own party from feeling and conviction, but only so far as it adheres to the principles that gave it birth. Free coinage of silver they consider repudiation of debts, and therefore dishonorable in the highest degree. Rather than lend any support or countenance to such a crime, they would see the Democratic party dead and buried a thousand times. Their hope is that the majority who were stampeded at Chicago last year, may be either chastened by defeat or convinced of their error, and return to the platform of earlier days.

The regulars who supported Bryan and Sewall last year, would be very glad to have the coöperation of the Nationals who supported Palmer and Buckner, and are evidently fishing for their votes. All the signs and outgivings point to an offer of compromise on the part of the former to the latter, not unlike that which Senator Gorman fixed up in Maryland. In short, if the Nationals would be content with simply ignoring the Chicago platform in the coming State election, the regulars would concede so much to them for the sake of present harmony and peace, leaving the future to take care of itself. Circumstances lend themselves to this kind of an arrangement, if there were a disposition on both sides to accede to it, since there is to be no State convention this year, but only a committee meeting to designate a candidate for Judge of the Court of Appeals. Platforms are seldom or never adopted by committees. So it would be in the usual order of things for the party to go into the campaign without one.

We feel sure that no such plan of union will tempt any supporter of the Indianapolis platform and candidates to "fall in line" with the regulars and to vote for their nominee for Judge. Ex-Senator Hill, who did not support either candidate last year, and a few others who simply abstained from voting, may lend their assistance now, especially if they are allowed to name the candidate, but those Democrats who voted for Palmer and Buckner, or for McKinley, because they believed that the Chicago platform was a grave breach of the moral law, ought not to be enticed to even a tacit compromise with the regulars. The reason why they ought not to do so is that a victory, or even a gain of votes, under present conditions would be claimed as a gain for Bryanism and free silver. It would be said that the platform of last year holds good until a new one is adopted, and that all persons who vote the Democratic State ticket must be presumed to do so because they approve the platform. The latest platform of the regulars was adopted on the 17th of September, 1896. It is brief and comprehensive. The first plank is as follows.

"The Democratic party of the State of New York, in convention assembled, unreservedly endorses the platform adopted by the Democratic party at the national convention held in Chicago on July 7, 1896; cordially approves the nomination there made; pledges to William J. Bryan and Arthur Sewall its hearty and active support, and declares as its deliberate judgment that never in the history of the Democratic party has a platform been written which embodied more completely the interests of the whole people, as distinguished from those who seek legislation for private benefit, than that given to the country by the national Democratic convention of 1896."

That is the kind of doctrine which the sound-money Democrats of the type of Abram S. Hewitt, Charles S. Fairchild, John De Witt Warner, and Gen. Tracey are asked to endorse, or at all events to ignore, within a twelvemonth of its adoption. Over against it we set their own State platform of last year, viz.:

"The Chicago platform attacks the Constitution, both in its letter and spirit. It threatens to overcome decisions of the Supreme Court displeasing to the party caucus by packing the court through an increase of the number of judges, thus striking a deadly blow at the vital constitutional principle of the independence of the judiciary. . . . In proposing to open the mints of the United States to the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, when the relative market values of silver and gold are now 32 to 1, the Chicago platform threatens a partial repudiation of that public debt the validity of which the Constitution says 'shall not be questioned.'"

The men who adopted this platform on the 31st of August last year are not going to eat their words now. Nor will they allow any act of theirs to be construed as approving the atrocious doctrines which they repudiated with such energy last year.

THE LOW NOMINATION.

Mr. Low's nomination is now complete. He has written his letter of acceptance, in which he endeavors to set forth the kind of Mayor he will be. There are only two vital points in it. There may be honest and harmless differences of opinion about the liquor law, and about rapid transit, and about municipal ownership of street railways, and about the hours of city labor. Men may hold contrary opinions on all these subjects, and may advocate various policies with regard to them, and yet have the good of the city thoroughly at heart. The essential articles of a good municipal creed are non-partisanship and home rule. On these no differences of opinion can be allowed among people calling themselves reformers. Unless a man thinks city offices should be filled solely for the sake of the city, and should be administered solely for the sake of the city, and that the city should not be deprived of any competent man's services because of his opinions about the tariff, or Hawaii, or silver, or gold, or the "Grand Army," or the condition of Cuba, or because of his creed or residence, he is not a good citizen, in the municipal sense of that term.

In like manner, if he thinks that nearly two millions and a half of the population of the six million inhabitants of the State, paying 70 per cent. of its taxes, and living in close contiguity, are incapable of managing their own local affairs, and that they need the watchful superintendence of the other four millions who live elsewhere, not only is he not a good citizen, but he is not a good democrat. It shows that he does not believe in the fundamental principles of American government. In other words, he is a dangerous man in a republic. The growth of this heresy during the last thirty years has been so steady, and has received so much support from both parties, that it has at last become an enormous scandal and a threat to property and order. It has ended, not only in producing the two party bosses, but in begetting the practice of levying blackmail on rich men and on corporations to pay the cost at Albany of extinguishing local government in New York. The time has come for this scandal to cease, and Mr. Low shows that he understands the crisis. This state of things cannot continue without putting constitutional govern-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ment in peril. Communities have a way of taking care of themselves when the worst comes to the worst, but it is not always the way of pleasantness and peace.

One of the most valuable portions of Mr. Low's letter is that in which he defines "non-partisanship." This term has now been in use for some years, but it came out clearly during Mayor Strong's administration that a large portion of the community, including Mayor Strong himself, did not use it in the same sense in which the Committee of Seventy used it. A large number of persons among the voters still do not understand it in the committee's sense. To an American who has been bred under the spoils system and accustomed to regard public offices as rewards for services to the party or to the appointing officer, the term naturally means that these rewards will be given to anybody who has supported a candidate, no matter to what party he belongs; that, for example, the appointing officer will not say to him, "Are you a good Republican or a good Democrat?" but, "What have you done to promote my election?" Understanding it in this sense, Mayor Strong gave offices to all sorts of people who had supported him. Some were good, some very bad, but all could say that their party associations had not prevented their getting "a plum." None, or next to none, could say that he was selected for his place solely for his fitness. The result was, that Mayor Strong's administration, though a great improvement on the Tammany riot, was marked by so many serious failures as to turn reform into ridicule, and to give Platt his most formidable weapon against the city. "The patronage of the city," says Mr. Low, "shall not be used, so far as it is in the Mayor's power to prevent it, for the purpose of either strengthening or weakening one party or another, or any fraction of any party." If this stood alone, Mayor Strong might have said it. But Mr. Low adds that "he will fill every place with a single eye to the public good." If Mayor Strong could have said this, a score of discreditable appointments would not have been made, and he would have been saved a great deal of embarrassment.

Now as to the future. We have in some degree found out during the last three years the great value of good administration as a popular educator. We have seen the effect on public opinion of the spectacle of public work well done. We believe the cleaning of the streets, for the first time in the history of the city, is only a small part of Col. Waring's claim to public gratitude. We believe that his demonstration, in the teeth of hostile and doubting public opinion, that the streets *could* be cleaned by honest labor, that the thing was possible, and even easy, has done more for the cause of municipal reform than all the articles and all the books that have been written about it. It has not only done much to banish despair about the city among the reading, intelligent classes, but it has brought interest in municipal problems, and light upon them, to the tens of thousands who do not read, who simply labor and suffer and fear. It has proved an argument, almost the only argument, which the laboring man understands. We rely on Mr. Low to do for non-partisanship, for "honest, broad-minded, efficient, and business-like administration," what Col. Waring has done for the street-cleaning. He must show the public for the first time that it is possible, and then show what it will do for popular comfort and decency. If he succeeds in doing this during his four years, we shall assuredly never go back to the mire of partisan politics. He will have raised a standard to which good men and women all over the Union will repair in the matter of municipal government. He will have nothing to learn in his new office, for the affairs of a city are no more inscrutable than those of a bank. What is inscrutable is political intrigue, the motives and humors of Mike, Jake, and Barney. Any Mayor who lets Mike and Jake alone may be sure that his work will be as easy as any other great business.

The immense importance of the manner of Mr. Low's nomination we have discussed already. It is a revolt against the machine and the corrupt nominating convention which may have far-reaching and beneficent effects. It may make the most momentous change yet made in American politics. But he will remember that the success of this great experiment will, if he is elected, depend mainly on him. It remains for him to prove its wisdom by its success.

THE HALIFAX COMMISSION.

What the amount of the award against the United States at Halifax is likely to be, no one knows, but we shall certainly be in luck if we get off with less than the $425,000 for which Mr. Gresham agreed to settle. His settlement was upset by Congress, and under the treaty of 1895 the damages are to be awarded by the commission which is still taking evidence. According to recent despatches, the English counsel are pressing a claim very like one unsuccessfully presented by us in the *Alabama* case, but with better chances of success.

In the *Alabama* case we insisted that we were entitled to recover, not merely for all the vessels and cargoes destroyed, but for the prospective earnings which the vessels might have made had they not been destroyed. As to this claim, the tribunal at Geneva decided unanimously that such earnings could not be made the subject of compensation, "inasmuch as they depend in their nature upon future and uncertain contingencies." In that case the point was very clear, especially as the tribunal expressly included interest in the $15,500,000 awarded. As a general rule in any court of law, when a loss is fixed, the person losing does not recover profits that might have been made, and interest on the loss as estimated in money as well. If he did, it would be *pro tanto* a double recovery. In the present instance, however, the English counsel contends, with some show of reason, that the catch of seals for the year, and the consequent profits (prevented by our interference), were a reasonably certain amount; and even if not, as our interference was determined by the Paris tribunal to be wholly wrongful, the Canadian sealers ought to be given more than they would had the loss been occasioned by mere neglect, as in the escape of the *Alabama*. This distinction, frequently recognized in common-law litigation over private wrongs, will have to be disposed of in some way by the tribunal, and it cannot be contended that the *Alabama* precedent is conclusive.

Another point raised at Halifax which is of some novelty is whether the question of good faith could be gone into. Commissioner Putnam sternly reproved the British counsel for attempting to go into it, and perhaps under the treaty it may not be open; but the idea that an arbitration can never raise a question of good faith is, of course, preposterous. When governments submit their disputes to a court, they do not make a reservation of the moral complexion of their acts. The extent of liability, and, indeed, liability itself, often depend wholly on moral considerations. Wilful offences are almost necessarily immoral, and a government can act in bad faith as well as an individual. Indeed, all governmental acts are individual acts. Mr. Sherman, in his notorious "shirt-sleeves" despatch, found no difficulty in imputing bad faith to Lord Salisbury, and we know of no way in which acts can be submitted to arbitration while the moral complexion of the acts is reserved from it. What was evidently running through the Commissioner's mind was the talk in the Senate and in England about the impossibility of submitting questions of national "honor" to arbitration. The suggestion, to our minds, proves nothing so much as the idleness of all this talk.

When the Halifax award is made, big or little, we shall have to pay it, and that, acccording to the common understanding, will terminate this part of the seal dispute. According to Mr. J. W. Foster, indeed, there is a still unsettled question outside the arbitration, by which we might offset the award. Writing in the *North American Review* for De-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

cember, 1895, that ingenious international attorney suggested that it was still a "vital question" whether, inasmuch as the Paris tribunal decided that pelagic sealing should not be permitted in the future, the United States had not a claim for damages on its own side, and added, "It is not to the discredit of Congress that it exercised its judgment as to the action of the Executive in agreeing to a settlement with Great Britain which altogether ignored the claim of the United States for damages to the seals by improper pelagic hunting." In other words, the Paris tribunal having expressly decided that we never had any rights in Bering Sea, and on this very ground having adopted or advised international precautions for the future, and having further decided that we must pay for having prevented the Canadians from sealing, we may, after paying these damages, get them back again because we have had to pay them. A suggestion of this sort cannot be treated seriously.

Very likely the Jingoes will make a great row over paying the award; but paid it will have to be, and with its payment the great seal controversy will probably gradually lose its importance and sink out of sight. The refusal of Lord Salisbury to reopen it has left nothing at issue but a question of international seal preservation, which may produce a great deal of acrimonious scientific discussion, but which would be a rather pitiable *casus belli*. If we could have got England to fight over the question whether killing a seal at sea was contrary to the moral law, or have persuaded the world that part of the Pacific Ocean was our private property which England was trying to "grab," we should have had a glorious quarrel, fit to pour out millions of treasure and oceans of blood for; but it would be hard to have to die for one's country over the seal controversy as it now stands, especially if the conduct of the war were to be distinguished by management no better than we now succeed in getting in public business in time of peace.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND AND SILVER.

The report published in the London *Times* that the Bank of England was about to announce its willingness to use silver as one-fifth part of the reserve of its issue department, has caused much excitement both in England and on the Continent. The report is not confirmed, and, although not officially denied, is now generally discredited. Yet the belief remains that the Bank directors have had the question under consideration, and that there is a party in favor of that policy in the board of direction, as well as in the Salisbury Government. In order to understand what is meant by the proposed action, we must go back to the Paris Conference of 1881, in which a similar project was advanced. On that occasion the representative of Great Britain laid before the Conference a paper from the Bank, saying that its charter required it to receive all the gold offered to it and give its notes therefor, and to redeem all of its notes in gold on demand. It might also receive silver and issue its notes therefor to the extent of one-fourth of the gold held in its issue department—these notes also being redeemable in gold. The Bank would avail itself of this provision of its charter, provided the mints of "other countries" would return to such rules as would insure the certainty of the conversion of gold into silver and of silver into gold. This, the paper said, would be indispensable to the resumption of silver purchases by a bank of issue whose responsibilities are contracted in gold.

The Bank is composed of two departments as distinct from each other as though they were two separate institutions. The banking department receives deposits and discounts commercial paper like any other bank. It has a capital wholly in this department, amounting, with its surplus, to about $90,000,000. The issue department is a veritable automaton. It had notes outstanding at its last return amounting to $250,000,000. These were the sole liabilities of that department. The assets of the same department consisted of Government debt $55,000,000, "other securities" about $28,000,000, and gold $117,000,000. The automatic action of the Bank is shown in this statement. The law authorizes the issue of a fixed amount of notes (about £16,500,000) against securities, and then requires the Bank to give its notes to the public in exchange for gold without any limit whatsoever. This action of the Bank is called, in the language of the street, "buying gold." It is required to redeem all of its notes in gold on demand. The deposits in its banking department are also payable in gold on demand. The greater or less amount of notes outstanding at any time depends upon the public and not in any degree upon the Bank, since the latter must issue and redeem notes upon the conditions named. The directors have nothing to say about that part of the business.

The Bank's charter as passed in 1844 authorizes it to receive and hold silver in its issue department to the extent of one-fifth of the total amount of its metallic reserve in that department. At the time when the charter was adopted silver was worth a trifle more than gold at the French ratio of 15½ to 1. England at that time had no ratio; she had been on the single gold standard since 1816. This authorization has never been availed of, we believe, and it would not be availed of now unless some competent authority should fix a ratio at which silver should be received. Even in that case—even if a ratio were adopted corresponding with the mercantile ratio, say 35 to 1—we could regard such a step on the part of the Bank only as evidence of mental unsoundness, leading also to financial unsoundness, since it would reduce the reserves of the issue department by 20 per cent. without any gain whatever.

For all purposes of redeeming its notes it might as well have an equal investment in pig iron. It may be said that the mints of the other countries, under the proposed scheme of 1881, will always hand over their gold in exchange for the Bank's silver at the agreed ratio, but who is to guarantee that? An international agreement? Suppose the countries go to war and blockade each other's ports. Will France be likely to hand over two or three hundred million francs in gold immediately in exchange for silver? Both countries in such a case will want all the gold they can lay their hands on, and both will leave for future adjustment any question that may arise touching their monetary agreements. Thus in a conceivable case, one-fifth of the Bank's metallic reserves may be no more available than pig iron, and even less, since pig iron could be converted into shot and shell. In short, the Bank's solvency at a critical moment might depend on a foreign government.

It should be added that the Bank's proposal in the Conference of 1881 was not accepted by any government represented therein. It had been pronounced unsatisfactory by Mr. Thurman on behalf of the United States even before it was received. It was pronounced unsatisfactory by Mr. Pierson, a bimetallist delegate from the Netherlands, after it was read. It was not even noticed by the delegates of France, who were at that time of the bimetallist persuasion. No vote was taken on it, and the Conference adjourned on the third day after the paper was laid on its table, and without any general discussion of its merits. The reason was the same as that which led to the rejection of all similar proposals at the Brussels Conference. It was simply a plan to make an artificial market for silver—to bolster up the price and help the owners of mines. Such a market could not be permanent, since any increase of price would necessarily be followed by an increase of the output; and as the market would not be an unlimited one, the price would fall back as soon as the artificial demand was satisfied, and then the Bank would be loaded with perhaps $50,000,000 of a metal that it could not pay its debts with nor get rid of except at a loss. The Bank would be in the same situation as the United States Government is with its new-fangled Treasury notes issued against pig silver. That a Government acting under the stress of popular sov-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ereignty and worried by demagogues to the extent that ours is should fall into such a muddle, can be easily understood and explained, but that a sober board of business men, not serving under fear of the next caucus, should do so, is past belief.

THE ENGLISH TROUBLES IN INDIA.

The English press has been devoting a great deal of space and thought to an analysis of the causes which led to the Afridi uprising. Up to a certain point there is a substantial agreement that it was owing to a belief deliberately spread through the Mohammedan world, that it is now a good time to attack England. The mountain tribesmen have been generally quiet for fifty years, and their rising was not due to any known or recognized grievance. Something had happened which gave them the idea that England was weak, and the English critics of both parties agree that the exciting cause was the English management of the Greco-Turkish question. When it comes, however, to explaining how the effect was produced, there is a great divergence of opinion. The Tory papers all maintain that England is a great "Mohammedan Power," and that the troubles on the frontier were due to the attacks on the Sultan, and on Mohammedans generally, made by English writers and speakers, and to the siding of the Government with the enemies of Turkey. What the English ought to have done was to have supported their natural ally, the Sultan. To this the Liberals reply with great force that there is not a scintilla of evidence to support this view, and that the present difficulties really arose from a failure to put the screws on the Sultan and coerce him.

The talk about England being a "Mohammedan Power" is of course a mere juggle with words. It is about as true as it would be to call the United States a great African Power because it has under its government several million negroes. England is a Christian Power, which has conquered and keeps in subjection a large part of the Mohammedan world, and governs it upon a system which would be reduced to absolute chaos were Mohammedan interests to be taken as guides. The rest of the Tory argument, and its real substance, is precisely the same appeal to fear which has been steadily made for two years. England is blamed for not having placated, conciliated, and supported the Sultan, in order that the Sultan might dissuade its Indian subjects from rising; in precisely the same way it was urged that nothing must be done for the Armenians or the Greeks, lest the intervention of the English should bring on a general European war. The *Spectator* recalls the fact that the Crimean war, undertaken to bolster up the Turk, was immediately followed by the disastrous Indian mutiny, a fact certainly not tending to prove that backing up the Sultan helps to maintain peace in India; but to onlookers at a distance the most striking thing about the whole controversy is that the motive, and the only motive, appealed to on behalf of Lord Salisbury's Eastern policy is fear of dreadful consequences, which it is always said must ensue if he shows any courage in his dealings with the Sultan. Up to the present time it is no exaggeration to say that the idea that Lord Salisbury's diplomacy has averted a general war, has been sufficient to reconcile England to a series of effects directly traceable to it which, under ordinary circumstances, would have been regarded as little short of horrible reproaches to any national policy.

Whatever Lord Salisbury may have prevented, the events for which his management of foreign affairs is inevitably held responsible are the Armenian massacres, the blockade of Crete and suppression of the Cretan insurrection, the recrudescence of Turkey as a military Power, the reduction of Greece to a "controlled" state, and now the rising in India, which, however completely it may be put down, is a most serious source of alarm, as even threatened trouble in India cripples English power elsewhere. These, it must be remembered, are positive consequences, while the inference that Lord Salisbury's management of foreign business has been the reason why a general Enropean war has not broken out, is a mere inference or conjecture, based on nothing more substantial than his own assurances, which we must regard as very poor evidence, inasmuch as the opposite policy of curtailing the power of Turkey in Europe, pursued for many years before the concert was invented, itself produced no general war.

It is evident that this argument will not do for ever. The English people may be reconciled for a good while to disasters and humiliations on the ground that they have prevented a general European war, but the time will come sooner or later when they will ask whether they are not being deceived, and whether it is not possible that an Eastern policy of a quite different sort would avert a general war in Europe even more definitely. Sooner or later the history of the diplomacy of the last two years will come out, and then we shall probably know how much truth there is in the constant assertion that it is Lord Salisbury's policy which has preserved the peace.

For ourselves, we cannot help regarding it as a misfortune to the world that the control of the foreign affairs of England should just at this time have fallen into the hands of a man whose career seems to foreigners to verify their most inveterate anti-English prejudices. Centuries of misrepresentation could not have accomplished what Lord Salisbury has done to make the old idea of England, as given to bullying the weak and cringing to the strong, seem true; and yet at no time in the history of the country has its actual management of governed populations, or its attitude towards its neighbors, been so civilized and humane. There is something painful in the spectacle of the greatest free Power the world has seen complying with the demands, first of one despot and then of another, for fear of there being a "general war," and, finally, finding itself, as a result, face to face with a serious rebellion in that part of its dominions where a hesitating policy is sure to be most fatal.

SOME UNPUBLISHED WASHINGTON LETTERS.

NEW YORK, September 3, 1897.

In one of the series of letters written by George Washington to Arthur Young, which were published by that eminent agriculturist after Washington's death, there occurs the following passage:

"By means of the application I made to my friend Mr. Fairfax of Bath and through the medium of Mr. Rock a bailiff is sent to me, who if he is acquainted with the best courses of cropping will answer my purposes as a director or superintendent of my farms. He has the appearance of a plain honest farmer—is industrious and from the character given of him by a Mr. Peacy (with whom he has lived many years) is understanding in the management of stock and of most matters for which he is employed. How far his ability may be equal to a pretty extensive concern is questionable. And what is still worse he has come over with improper ideas, for instead of preparing his mind to meet a ruinous course of cropping, exhausted lands and numberless inconveniences into which we had been thrown by an eight years' war, he seems to have expected that he was coming to well organized farms and that he was to have met ploughs, harrows and all the other implements of husbandry in as high taste as the best farming counties of England could have exhibited them. How far his fortitude will enable him to encounter these disappointments or his patience and perseverance will carry him towards the work of reform remains to be decided."

There seems to be no further trace of this somewhat unpromising new bailiff in letter, diary, or note-books, and here or elsewhere no mention of his name. It was, however, my fortune not long since to stumble upon further documents relating to this man, and Washington's experience with him, in the shape of certain letters of the bailiff and of Washington himself to the Mr. Peacey mentioned above, in the hands of whose descendants these letters have been preserved.

Among that class of country gentlemen which reached its zenith in the latter part of the last century, the name of Mr. William Peacey of North Leach, Gloucestershire, stood very high; and this—in the days when farmers "could let half their land lie idle and live like gentlemen on the proceeds of the other half," when the greatest statesmen in the country reckoned their interest in agriculture and their knowledge of its practical side as not the least of their accomplishments, when the King himself, "a gentleman of Berkshire," took keen interest in

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

such matters—was no slight distinction. Not only was he awarded the great gold medal of the Royal Agricultural Society and invited to become one of the editors of the great agricultural cyclopædia of the time, but he numbered among his friends and correspondents many of the most famous public men of his day. It is of him, too, the story is told, and embalmed in the yellow pages of the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1791, how, in order to save an innocent man from the gallows, he rode ninety miles to London in one night, with proofs of the man's innocence, which he had secured at great trouble. There is another story, too, how once King George came to see him in his absence. The busy and irritable housekeeper grumbled vastly at being disturbed in her work by the big footman who "made as much noise as if it had been the King." "It *is* the King," said the footman. "Then," said the still angry housekeeper, "the King can just go on to Cheltenham to see Mr. Peacey, for he's not at home." And the King went.

But these glimpses of an elder day when men were hanged for petty theft, when horses were still the fastest locomotive power, when a king posted from place to place like any private gentleman, are by the way. These slight gleanings of correspondence which follow are the connection between this Gloucestershire farmer and another and greater George on this side the Atlantic. The first letter is from that Wakelin Welch who for many years was Washington's agent in London, the connection being severed about 1791. It needs no comment.

Mr. William Peacy North Leach Gloucestershire

MR. PEACY,

By this post have sent you a packet which came by a vessel, just arrived, addressed to us from Gen. Washington in his letter to us—"he mentions that "he had a Farmer sent to him from Gloucestershire "by a Friend at Bath, he has written for his wife to "come to him with her Children & to bring with "them some Seeds Implements of Husbandry &c to "this Country. Bristol is their nearest port, but "Oppo from thence to this River rarely happen-"ing I have recommended it to their Patron Mr "Peacey to open a Correspondence with you that "she may be advised of the Sailing of a Vessell from "London to this River as a more speedy & certain "mode of conveyance. Your compliance therein "would be very pleasing to me & very Serviceable "to an honest old English Farmer

am Sr

"Yr Most obedient humle Serv.

"G. W."

In Conformity to the above I am to inform you that a fine Vessell named the Mary Capt. John Andrews & who sails by Gen. Washington's Seat will go from hence in all February if it suits your Friend to go by that time & from London, she shoud let me know as I might engage for her Passage which sometimes cannot always be depended upon. am

Sr

Yr H Servt

W. WELCH,

LONDON the 17 Jan 1787

The charge of a Passage from hence is high & paid for before the departure of the Ship how far will this be convenient for the Family.

The next is the remarkable communication of Mr. James Bloxham, not to himself, as one might imagine from the beginning, but to his patron and benefactor, Mr. Peacey. It may be necessary to explain that sanfine, or sainfoin, is a kind of pasture grass, and from the Young letters it seems probable that the unsatisfactory seed came from that farmer and that many seeds spoiled in transit. A "shupick" is a fork; the word may be used in some parts of America, but is not in my vocabulary, and is, I believe, peculiar to Gloucester, Worcester, and Wilts (Ger. *Schuppe*, a spade?). And as to the gentle insistence of Mr. Bloxham that the ploughs shall be "Light and Deasent," his anxiety will not be surprising to any one who has ever observed the difference of *weight* between English and American soil, probably nowhere greater than between North Wilts and Gloucester and the neighborhood of Mount Vernon. In his letters to Young, Washington complains of the trouble he has had to make his hands use the heavy English ploughs, and comments on his land as "light loam."

For Mr. Peacey Att Northleach Farm Gloucestershire

Vurginia July 23 1786

JAMES BLOXHAM SR. this is to Inform you that I arived Safe att the generls Washingtons the 20 3 [23] of aprel which was Ester monday. I have orderd for 10 Bushels of Sanfine Seed and other Seeds from you which the generel washington will aplie to you for and I should be glad if you would take the Best Care you Can to send it over good ass you Can for he have been Deseved in soom sanfine seed from Englnd which I Recemend him to you and let me have good that the generl sends for of all sorts if posable and send it along with my wife ass soon ass posable and I sould bee glad If you could get a Clever Little Deasant D plow which must go whithout a weeal for the Land is not Level and to be Shoor to make him Light and Desant and be Shoor to make him to turn the worke well for they have som most shoking Plows that Ever was Seen in the world the land is Light and very esey to plow they go with two horses only and Doble the same ass your norfolk plows. But no weel but very light but they have no noshon of making of a plow to turn the work thay are very stupet in thare one Consait but send on that is Light an Deasent and that it will turn the work well I Rot in my other Letter to my wife to Com over but I thinke it not worth wile for I think thatt I Shall not Stay no Longer then my yeare is up which is the forst of next may for things Are verey Desagreable to Do Bisness it is inposable for any man to Do Bisness in any form the Genral have a Bout 25 hundrd akers of Clear Land under is on ocyping. Ther is nothing agreble about on the plase which I Can not Do no Bisnss form nor no Credet but I have you send the plow And the Seeds which the Genearel will send for to you and send half a Dosen of Good Clean made Shupicks for they have nothing but woodon forks I have got one or two made but in a very bad maner that I should be glad to Show them a patrn and if my house is not Disposed of I should be glad if you would not for this Contey is verey pore and there is no Chance for any Body to Do any god and I should be gad if you and my Brother Thomas would See if these velins would Com to any terms or I would go to any part of Englun to be out of thare way But this Countruy will not Do for me but to Be Shore what the General have oferd in wages is quite Well he Gives for this year we have a Gred for 50 English ginnes per yeare and Bord and washing and Lodging and if I Would Send for my wife and famly he would alow me ten Ginnes towards thare Coming to this Contry an if I would Stay and to alow me 8 hundard Waite of flower and 6 hunderd Wait of pork and Bef and to alow me two milchs Cows for the youse of my famly and to alow me a Sow to Bree [d] Som pigs for my on yous but Not to Sell and to alow me a Comfortable house to Live n but it apears to me not Any Inheretance [inducement?] thear is another thing Which is very Disagreable tese Black Peope I am Rather in Danger of being poisind among them which I think I Shall Leave the Contrey ass son Ass I Can But the general and I have agreed and articld for one yeare But my wife may youse ore one will A Bout Comming over. But I hope Sr you I Hope will Be a frend to my Poor Deer Children and Wife And I Hope you will Remember my Brother Thomas to a Sist them what he can my heart have yarned for my family A gret maney time and I think I m allmost Like a transport [*i. e.*, convict] But I hope that the Sun will Shine upon me wonce more the general have some very [good?] layd But badly manedge and he never well have them no Better for he have a Sett About him which I nor you would be troubled with But the General is goot them and he must keep them But they are a verey Desagreable People and I will leave the Contry But I Should be glad of answer Inmedatly to know how afares Stand and then I Sall be a better Judge of the matter the General have som very good Shep which he sold for 40 Shilings a pes of thar money a English guina is 28 Shiling of m[o]ney and I hope mrs and all the famly is Well and I have whent thro a greatt Dele Since I laft England.

And Lett me have a nanswer Imeadetly Rember me to all frens and no mor from me yor frend and well well wisher

JAMES BLOXHAM

The next letter, that of Washington himself, calls for no explanation, nor does the following one from the agents:

MOUNT VERNON, VIRGINIA, Augt 5th 1786.

SIR, Excuse the liberty I take in putting the inclosed Letters under cover to you.—It is to oblige Mr. James Bloxham who now lives with me, but who scarcely has sufficient knowledge of his own mind to determine whether to continue more than the present year (for which he is engaged) or not.—In a word he seems rather to have expected to have found well organized farms, than that the end and design of my employing him was to make them so.—He makes no allowances for the ravages of a nine year's war from which we are but just begining to emerge, nor does he consider that if our system of Husbandry had been as perfect as it may be found on your Farms, or in some of the best farming Counties in England, there would have been no occasion for his Services.

What the old man has written to you respecting the coming over of his wife—sending over plows seeds and so forth, I know not; because at different times he seems to be of different opinions. I can only add, therefore, if his family are to come, and by the way of London, that it would be well for some person on their behalf to open a correspondence with Messrs. Forrest & Stoddart, Merchans, of that place who have Ships that pass by my door in their way to Alexandria, and would render the passage in one of them much more convenient & less expensive than to any other place; 'tho in a Vessel bound to Norfolk in this State (Virginia,) or to Annapolis, Baltimore or Patu: ent in the neighbouring one of Maryland, it would not be very inconvenient. In case of her coming, whatever Impliments, seeds, &c. may be requested by Mr. Bloxham on my Acct had better be paid for by his wife, and settled for here.

I am sorry to be thus troublesome, but as Mr. Bloxham considers you as his Benefactor, and Friend—has addressed one of his Letters to you—and his Wife, if she finally resolves to come, will stand in need of advise and assistance, it is necessary that the best mode should be suggested.—A Ship from Bristol to either of the places above named, may, probably, be more convenient than the rout by London but of this you can judge better than I. I am Sir,

Yr most Obdt & Humle Servt,

G. WASHINGTON.

William Peacey, Esq

Mr. W. Peacey, North Leach, Gloustirshire.

SR. I am to thank You in the first place for your kind present of a Hare which I rec'd very safe & in Consequence of your desiring my engaging a passage for Mrs. Bloxham & her two Children I this day have done it—the Captain one Andrews is a very good Man, his ship is Brittish & one of the first character, the Vessel goes very near Gen. Washingtons Landing so that Mrs. Bloxham has not far to Travel.

The Usual Charge for passengers who Lay in the Cabbin & are found with fresh Provisions & Wine during the Voyage is twenty Guineas each, but for Mrs. Bloxham & her two children to go in that agreeable State, the Captain has agreed for thirty Guineas for the Family & which I do not think unreasonable, as to the things necessary for Mrs Bloxham to take depends on her Self. Goods & Cloaths in Virginia as they mostly come from hence are very dear, therefore it woud be necessary for her

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

to Lay in a good Stock of them, on board Ship anything does the Captain was saying some Bedding might be wanting for the Cabin. but the expence of which cannot be great as to every thing else is included in the thirty guineas, the Seeds will be particularly taken care of & let the Package be marked Seeds so that they may be known when on Board, pray will there be any Quantity so as to fill Casks, if they do we must take a warehouse for them if not they may be sent to our Counting house No 10 Fenchurch Buildings near Fenchurch Street, the Place of my Residence is in the country about 4 miles from London.

The Ship sails in all Feby so that if Mrs Bloxham has any Acquaintance in Town she might come by the last week

am very Respectfully

yr obliged & humb Serv

W. Welch

23d Jany 1787

If Mrs Bloxham should alter her Mind let me know as the Captain keeps the Cabbin for her Accomodation & therefore cannot dispose of it to any else.

It appears from the above, then, that Mrs. Bloxham did not alter her mind, but was shipped along with the "sanfine" seed and the other farming necessaries (of which we may hope the ploughs were Light and Deasent), as we see by the following letter. From this it also appears that the fretful Bloxham had not been poisoned, and that he had apparently reconsidered his determination to leave the country to its fate as soon as his agreement with Washington expired, and, moreover, that his services had proved more satisfactory than the previous letters would have led us to believe:

Mount Vernon, 7 Jany 1788

Sir:—I have received your letter of the 2nd of Feby 1787. I am much obliged to you for your attention in sending me the seeds, which arrived agreeable to the bill. Mrs. Bloxam received of Wakelin Welch Esq. of London £10-1-10 which sum she informed him was what she paid you for the seeds on my account. I am not sorry that Caleb Hall did not come out for I proposed his coming more to please Bloxham, who was very desirous of having him here then from a want of his services myself. I thank you, Sir, for your obliging offer to furnish me with Blacksmiths and a Mill-wright:—I have two of the former occupation, who, though not very neat workmen, answer all my purposes in making farming utensils etc in a plain way—the latter I shall have no occasion for as I have not work enough to employ him in his own line:—and indeed I doubt whether they would find their advantage in coming over at present because I hardly think they will meet with constant employ: for although I should be extremely glad to see the honest and industrious mechanic come into this country from any and every part of the Globe, yet I would not wish to encourage them unless they could be benefitted by it. Whenever we have a regular and firm government established the prospect for these people will be much more pleasing than it is at present. Bloxham and his family are in good health and appear to be contented with the country. I am Sir

Yr most obed: Servt

G. Washington.

William Peacey Esq.

This, so far as I know, is the end of Mr. Bloxham's appearance in history. Whatever further correspondence there was, if any, between Washington and Mr. Peacey has been lost. Neither Bloxham's name nor that of Mr. Peacey seems to occur anywhere else, either in Sparks's or Ford's 'Writings of Washington,' in the Diary, or rather the Itinerary, published by Mr. Baker, in the *Pennsylvania Historical Magazine*, in the Long Island Historical Society papers edited by Moncure D. Conway, which cover the agricultural affairs from 1793, in the letters to Young, Sinclair, or Anderson on agricultural subjects, or in minor collections like Ford's 'Washington as an Employer of Labor,' or in the accounts. I am told, further, by Mr. Eames of the Lenox Library, to whose courtesy I have been much indebted, that he does not recall the names of either Bloxham or Peacey in any of the two hundred-odd letters of Washington in possession of the Library, which it is now publishing in the form of bulletins. Of no great intrinsic value, the letters are none the less interesting as a side light on that private life of Washington which, now that the public life has been so thoroughly exploited, begins to demand more attention.

Wilbur C. Abbott.

GLIMPSES OF SOUTHERN OREGON.—II.

Marshfield, August, 1897.

The coast of Oregon runs in a nearly straight north and south line from the mouth of the Columbia River to the Umpqua, and is chiefly composed of sandy beaches, behind which rise moderately high rocky bluffs of shale or sandstone of Tertiary age. The line of bluffs is broken by the estuaries of the river drainage of the Coast Range and its foothills; mostly small, and separated from the ocean by sandy bars which admit only vessels of light or moderate draught. Near these estuaries are groups of sand dunes often of considerable size. South of the Umpqua the shore trends a little more to the westward, and rocky bluffs reach quite to the sea in places. The general character of the coast continues much the same as far as Cape Blanco. The estuary of the Umpqua admits vessels of several hundred tons, which are principally employed in carrying lumber to other parts of the coast. The only harbor of consequence on this shore between Cape Blanco and the Columbia is Coos Bay, about thirty miles south of the Umpqua. It is accessible from Gardiner by driving down the ocean beach in a rough stage with broad-tired wheels. Under favorable circumstances this is an enjoyable drive, the beach at low water being hard and the salt air stimulating and refreshing. When the terminus is nearly reached, the stage leaves the beach and cuts across a mile-wide spit of sand, which defends Coos Bay from the breakers of the Pacific. The entrance to the harbor was formerly rather difficult, but the building of a jetty by the Government, though not yet completed, has already much improved the channel over the bar. Several lines of steamers ply between the bay, Astoria, and San Francisco, carrying coal, lumber, and produce.

In 1853 the first settlement was made at Empire City, on the lower bay, by a band of pioneers, associated as the Coos Bay Company. A little later, the discovery of beds of Eocene coal in the vicinity, and of gold in the sands of adjacent beaches, stimulated immigration; other towns were located, and the neighboring valleys became the site of farms. The career of Coos Bay has since continued with varied fortunes. The business depression of the last few years has been seriously felt, and, as little wheat is grown and other coals compete with the local product, no very evident signs of a change for the better are yet manifest. Coos Bay is a long and narrow estuary of winding form with numerous branches. The commodious part of the harbor is near the small town grandiloquently denominated Empire City by the pioneers. The proximity of the coal deposits determined the establishment of another town, Marshfield, near the head of navigation, and this has outstripped its older neighbor in size and population, though less favorably situated for commerce.

About the bay, as elsewhere on the Oregon coast, the climate varies markedly from that of the interior valleys. Though little rain falls from July to October, the northwest trades blow with great constancy, interrupted only by occasional southeasters. The mornings and evenings are almost invariably foggy, and the clouds frequently persist during the entire day. It follows that the summer atmosphere is cool and rather moist. The trees and shrubs for hours after sunrise are dripping with the copious dews left by the condensing fog. Luxuriant tufts of lichen hang from the fences. Even the dusty country roads are damp in the early morning, except where protected by overhanging foliage. If one penetrates the woods by road or trail, the density of vegetation on either hand is astonishing. Huge fallen trunks lie upon one another in chaotic confusion, thickly overspread with brushwood, moss, and ferns. Rhododendron, myrtle, blackberry vines, and enormous bracken form impenetrable thickets. A low purple barberry, the so-called "Oregon grape," occupies the more open places, and is very ornamental with its vernicose leaves and purple clusters of fruit. A coarse vaccinium, with insipid large seedy fruit, called the "salal-berry," is very abundant, and its rosy bells, which seem to be ever-blooming, are not unpleasing. The season of flowers is over by August, but the indications are that spring must offer a remarkable profusion of them. The rhododendrons alone, if up to their reputation, must afford a gorgeous display. At present a few bright colored asters, rich yellow daisies, purple pedicularia, and the familiar willowherb or fireweed of the East comprise the autumnal flora. The symplocarpus, so common in Alaska, abounds in moist places, and the ferns exceed anything I have elsewhere noted in size and luxuriance. On one old trail I forced my way beneath over-arching brake which would average nine feet in height. At various points on the road over to the coast I had been surprised to note the common European foxglove, purple and white, growing abundantly. Inquiry brought out the fact that, some years ago, an English lady resident in Gardiner, with a love for the flowers of her youth, imported foxglove seed. The plant soon escaped from her garden and has become widely distributed over the coast, where, the story being known, it is generally called, apropos of its introducer, the "Gibbs weed." In several places I have also observed the English broom, probably likewise a truant from gardens, but which does not seem to have found the climate or soil so congenial as the foxglove. The latter is credibly reported to have extended its range northward at least as far as the Nehalem River, forty miles south of the Columbia.

The trees which form the prevalent forest are chiefly the Douglas fir, widely known as "Oregon fir," and which furnishes a large proportion of the fine timber exported from the coast. It is a stately tree, but less elegant in foliage than its frequent companion the white cedar. The latter resembles the

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

arbor-vitæ in its docility under pruning and the flattened, frond-like sprays which cast a dense shade. There are a few hemlocks, but the non-coniferous trees are rare and most commonly represented by the alder.

The task of clearing land so encumbered is most laborious. It seemed not improbable in many places that if the wood actually on the ground were reduced to sawdust, it would cover the surface, evenly distributed, to a depth of at least a foot. When the trees are felled and the underbrush cut in a piece of virgin forest, the soil is practically covered to a much greater depth. These trees are rapid growers. I counted the rings of one which had been sawed across to clear the roadway, and though it was three feet in diameter there were only about two hundred and fifty rings. The fallen trees are very numerous, and so wet that they do not burn readily, though the wood seems sound. Uncultivated land falls rapidly back into woodland. The very cemeteries become thickets in a few years.

On the whole, the task of the settler who would clear his land is appalling. Even in the tropics the persistent, steady siege laid by the forces of nature against the handiwork of man, is hardly more obvious and more unrelenting. Here, however, the settler is spared the insidious heat which undermines health and energy in the tropics. Where the land is tillable, on the flats near the estuaries and on the valley floors, man conquers in the end, though he must hold his conquest by yearly effort. The country, climate, and vegetation strongly remind one of southeastern Alaska. Here it is somewhat drier in summer and a little warmer—differences sufficient to make productive agriculture possible. The winters are, of course, much milder here, though, in the nine months of rain, flooding streams and boggy roads, the region is seriously handicapped. "People always come back to Coos County," said a resident, "if they have lived here a few years; and I think if outsiders realized what we have to contend with, in the long rainy season and the difficulty of clearing land, they would not so often reproach us with a lack of energy." And the listener was inclined to agree with him. W. H. D.

Correspondence.

THE DEMOCRATIC - REPUBLICAN PARTY.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The continued dominance in public affairs of (*soi-disant*) leaders of party must, almost inevitably, result in unrest, revolt, and—bloodshed, perhaps. When men moved by principle get together, the end of opportunism and machine politics will come. If men having the courage of their convictions will unite, the bosses—Hill, Platt, Quay, Hanna, and Gorman—will be relegated to retirement.

Live principles demand live parties. Give voters a platform of:

1st. Free trade, absolute and unqualified.

2d. An honest currency, based on real money.

3d. Honest administration of genuine civil service.

4th. Economical expenditure of revenues.

5th. Purification of the suffrage; *i. e.*, eliminate from those privileged to vote and to hold office not only such as sell their ballot, but also every one who, directly or indirectly, is party to such corruption.

6th. A strict construction of the Federal Constitution and rigid observance of its limitations.

The name of a party of such believers matters little. If the names "Democrat" and "Republican" are now odorous, or reminiscent of evil deeds only, cleanse them by faith and good works. For one, "Democratic-Republican" will do for me.

Robert T. Johnson.

Franklin, N. Y., September 6, 1897.

SEQUEL TO A SOUTHERN "DIFFICULTY."

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Twenty-three years ago the Marshal of the old-style Southern town of Lexington, Mo., forty miles east of Kansas City, was a one-armed ex-Confederate soldier named Lane, with a wife and a little girl. He was a Virginian, and made up of grit and nerve from head to heels, and there was never such order maintained in the town before or since as he kept. A difficulty rose between him and a deputy sheriff named Ewing, a native of the town, a descendant of the Rev. Finis Ewing, the father of the "Cumberland" Presbyterian sect, and a kinsman of the wife of Senator Cockrell of Missouri. They were both witnesses in a case in court, and their testimony was contradictory the one's of the other's. Afterwards they met on the street, Ewing waiting for Lane at a certain place in the most public part of the town, having heavily armed himself. He stepped out and began talking, and Lane said, "You swore to a G—d d—d lie in court to-day." A man could hardly stay in a Southern town after taking that, albeit, if the charge is not true, the man who makes it is the liar, and, if true, he ought not to resent it. Ewing began firing at Lane, almost close enough to touch each other, one ball grazing the lower end of his heart and nearly knocking him down. He gritted his teeth frightfully and spread his legs apart to keep from falling, and, getting his pistol out, with his one (left) hand, fired at Ewing, and both fell. The bullet lodged against Ewing's spine. Lane died in a few hours, after expressing pleasure that he had made his enemy suffer.

Lane's wife struggled through poverty and sickness, and died in a hospital in St. Louis. Their child was taken by a kind Canadian merchant of Lexington and raised as his own. She had the misfortune to lose one arm at the shoulder. Ewing suffered most excruciating agony for years, after the doctors had nearly killed him with cutting and probing ineffectually for the ball. Then he became paralyzed below the waist and went totally blind, and in hopeless poverty was supported by his friends. Last week he was taken to Kansas City and the X-rays turned on him, and the bullet was seen half imbedded in one of the vertebræ of his spine, much higher up than the doctors had always thought it was. They are going to take it out, and he hopes to recover from his paralysis and blindness. In the long years of darkness he has had time to think the affair well over, and has become a pious church member. No doubt he would now advise any other man to take a good deal of bad talk rather than again die a thousand deaths as he has done. Everybody says he got the worst of it, though he lived and his adversary died. Southerner.

September 4, 1897.

TEXAS IN POORE'S CHARTERS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: In the matter relative to Texas in Poore's 'Charters and Constitutions' there are some mistakes, and a seriously important omission, which are very misleading to those **who rely absolutely on the work. Under the title "Texas Declaration of Independence" is printed (Part II., pp. 1752-3) the declaration adopted November 7, 1835, by the consultation at San Felipe de Austin, in favor of the Mexican Federal Constitution of 1824, and against the revolutionary aims of Santa** Anna. The footnote (p. 1752) which says, **"This Declaration of Independence was adopted by a convention which assembled at** Washington, on the Brazos River, March 1, **1836," applies properly not to "this Declaration, etc.," but to the actual Texas Declaration of Independence, which was adopted March 2, 1836, and has passed by the name into history. The latter is, unfortunately, omitted altogether.**

My attention was first directed to these errors by my colleague, Prof. John C. Townes. George P. Garrison.

University of Texas,
Austin, September 3, 1897.

DR. ANDREWS AND VERGIL.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: It has been a little over five years since Dr. Andrews wrote that "to be accurate requires that of many things a finite mind should deliberately remain in ignorance." The natural corollary, that of the things whereof one elects to remain in ignorance he should forbear to speak, seems not to have occurred to the Doctor's mind when he made the ridiculous charge that "much of Vergil and Horace that is used in the class-room, editors and teachers misinterpret to make it decent."

The lines in Vergil which, even by malicious misinterpretation, can be made to carry indecent suggestions to the mind of the pupil, are too few to constitute "much" of a single day's lesson; and as to these few passages, the teacher who is obliged to misinterpret in order to avoid harm should look for the real seat of the difficulty in himself, not in "the chastest poet and royalest that to the memory of man is known" (Bacon). Let one grant that the apparent sweetness and purity so dominant in the whole of Vergil's work is but a mere cloak of hypocrisy, and that the worst ever said of him by a handful of ancient scandalmongers was true; grant, further, that a bad interpretation is to be put upon every passage possible under this supposition, and still the words of Dr. Andrews would be grossly inaccurate. But no one who has read understandingly any important part of his poems would think for an instant of the possibility of such concessions. Aside from the mere absence of impurity, the positive religious tone of the 'Æneid' is so marked that Gaston Boissier has well said: "L'Énéide est avant tout un poème religieux; on s'expose à le mal comprendre si l'on n'en est pas convaincu." The same author says elsewhere that if Vergil himself was not a

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Christian, his writings dispose one to become so.

As to Horace, most teachers will consult the mental and moral characteristics of their pupils before indiscriminate reading. Where there are those in a class who might be harmed by certain poems, omission is the rule, not misinterpretation. Any one who supposes that Horace is ever indecent for the mere sake of indecency, knows him not, and should not attempt to teach him. He exerted an elevating tendency in his time, and the teacher in whose hands he cannot be made to do the same to-day is probably either an immoral man himself, or one whose notions of propriety are so far astray as to lead him into the attempt to clarify the honey of the "Matinian bee" by the adulterant of misinterpretation.

As to Dr. Andrews's general assertion that "large parts of classical literature reek with filth," it is a mere platitude, applying with equal truth to the literature of any other period or people. To assign any portion of Vergil to the filthy part, however, is neither more nor less accurate than to classify Tennyson or Milton in the same way. Let us hope that in the new *Cosmopolitan* "University" Dr. Andrews will not himself act as "expert" in the subject of classical literature. If so, there will be a solution of continuity in the stream of dignity which is to flow in the direction of the *Cosmopolitan*. Dr. Andrews owes to the educated public an unqualified apology for his blunder.

A CLASSICAL TEACHER.

ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It would be a mistake to infer, as your readers might infer, from your editorial last week entitled "Architects' Competitions," that there is a general feeling among architects in favor of the plan of competition therein described. There are a great number of objections urged against its provisions. It cannot be announced as in any sense a solution of the old difficulty. It is one more attempt to meet all the requirements, and it is a perfectly respectable, intelligent, and honest attempt; but so have been a score of similar attempts before, and so will be a hundred more. The Institute of Architects and many smaller and less generally influential organizations have formulated schemes for competition. Sagacious professional advisers have drawn up programmes. They have all failed to give satisfaction, and all such plans are destined to fail, because they seek to bring about an impossibility, namely, to persuade busy and successful men to give a great deal of valuable advice, designs, calculations, and the result of years of study in return for very inadequate compensation. That compensation is the chance of getting employment; a chance small at best and generally uncertain.

It is not the purpose of this protest to point out the weak points in the Harrisburg or in any competition; but it may at least be suggested that the recently published agreement signed by twenty New York firms and architects offers the only basis known for a proper system of competitions.

Persons meaning to build may choose between those terms on which alone the most successful architects will compete and terms of their own devising, which will be accepted by less well-known men. As those younger men come to be better known, they also will insist on the terms of the agreement signed by the twenty; and so on in a somewhat orderly sequence. Do not imagine, however, that those less prosperous architects accept their fate contentedly, or that they engage in these competitions without profound annoyance. The extremely high character of the experts employed in the Harrisburg competition cannot alone make this an exception to the rule that all such competitions are an offence to the profession, and a very poor way of serving the public.

RUSSELL STURGIS.

DANTE AMONG HIS COUNTRYMEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: A remark in your review of 'Dante in America' (No. 1678), that "in Italy itself the great poet is a name to worship conventionally more than elsewhere," runs counter to the experience and observation of your present correspondent. Had your reviewer written a few weeks later, he would hardly have used an expression implying that Dante is a writer much talked of but little read by Italians. He would doubtless have read in the *Dial* of September 1 a lady's letter from Berkeley which mentions a settlement of Italian fishermen about San Francisco Bay, apparently without an aspiration other than a supply of the black bread they eat and the sour wine they drink; "and yet these people support a society for the study of Dante."

Again, the reviewer would surely have modified his remark had his Italian experience been of a piece with my own. In May, 1891, I saw a vest-pocket edition of the "Inferno" (pp. 168) on sale wherever I walked in Florence, published in Rome the same year. The price was twenty centimes in the depreciated Italian currency, and so less than four cents. Such an edition, I said to myself, would never have been printed but in response to a popular demand. No printer could afford it. It proves a permanent popularity. This impression of mine was shared and confirmed by Prof. Norton, to whom I exhibited the dime Dante which I had brought home. Though he had always been a gatherer of Dantes, and though my treasure-trove pleased him in paper, type, and text, it had altogether eluded his research. This Lilliputian jewel, less than three inches by four, must have seemed to his Italian purveyors beneath the dignity of his chair. Though I at first saw only the "Inferno," I directly met with the rest of the 'Divina Commedia,' in separate parts, as well as all three portions tastefully bound together, and retailed at a single lira.

It has long been customary to concede to Italian illiterates a degree of artistic discernment, or appreciation for painting and sculpture, which is lacking in uncultured ultramontanes—yes, in many of them where culture has done for them what it could. May not bounteous Nature have added an analogous precious seeing to the eyes of the Italian masses in regard to Dante? It was not without genuine feeling, according to all accounts of Dante's sixth centennial, that the Italian millions cried: "Onorate l'altissimo poeta!"

For illustrating the fewness till recent decades of American Dantophilists, in the judgment of Europeans, there is one significant fact that would have done yeoman service to the reviewer. When Lord Vernon has completed his monumental Dante in vellum paper folios at a greater outlay of money and labor than any other edition had cost, he resolved never to sell a single copy, but to distribute every one as a free gift where it would, as he thought, be best appreciated. As a result of this resolution—*Detur dignioribus*—only four sets were at first vouchsafed to Americans. These four were bestowed upon Ticknor, Lowell, Longfellow, and Norton.

DANTOPHILIST.

Notes.

J. B. Lippincott Co. are to publish during the present season a 'Life of Charles Jared Ingersoll,' by William M. Meigs; 'Men, Women, and Manners in Colonial Times,' by Sydney George Fisher; 'Washington after the Revolution, 1784-1799,' by William S. Laker; 'A History of the United States of America, its People and its Institutions,' for advanced school grades, by Charles Morris; 'The University of Pennsylvania Illustrated,' with letter-press by Prof. John B. McMaster and H. L. Geyelin; 'Curiosities of Popular Customs, and of Rites, Ceremonies, etc.,' together with 'A Library of Curiosities,' by William S. Walsh; 'Stories of Famous Songs,' by S. J. Adair Fitzgerald; 'A Guide to the Proper Understanding of Wagner'; a 'Life of Wagner,' by Houston Stuart Chamberlain, illustrated; 'Symphonies and their Meaning,' by Philip H. Goepp; 'Chambers's Concise Biographical Dictionary'; 'Picturesque Burma, Past and Present,' by Mrs. Ernest Hart, copiously illustrated; a new edition of the Urquhart-Motteux translation of Rabelais's Works in five volumes, and Rousseau's 'Confessions' in four, founded on the anonymous edition of 1790-'96, but amended and enlarged.

G. P. Putnam's Sons' autumn list includes a new and limited edition of 'A History of the English Poor Law,' by Sir George Nicholls, K.C.B., revised; a new edition, in larger form, of Bernhard Berenson's 'Venetian Painters of the Renaissance,' with twenty-four examples in photogravure, together with a fresh work by the same author on 'The Central Italian Painters of the Renaissance'; 'Life in Early Britain,' by Bertram C. A. Windle, with maps and illustrations; 'The Ayrshire Homes and Haunts of Burns,' by H. C. Shelley; 'Historic New York,' comprising the twelve papers of the "Half-Moon Series," with illustrations; Irving's 'Astoria,' in the style of the holiday Alhambra edition; a brand-new issue of the Complete Works of Irving in forty volumes; 'The American College in American Life,' by President Thwing of Western Reserve University; 'The Occasional Address: Its Literature and Composition,' by Prof. Lorenzo Sears of Brown University; 'Modern English Prose Writers,' by Frank Preston Stearns; the second and concluding volume of Prof. Moses Coit Tyler's 'Literary History of the American Revolution'; and 'Coffee and India-rubber Culture in Mexico,' with historical and geographical notes on the country, by Matias Romero, Mexican Minister to the United States.

The Baker & Taylor Co. announce for early publication 'A Colonial Witch: Being a Study of the Black Art in the Colony of Connecticut,' by Frank Samuel Child; 'Fabius the Roman; or, How the Church be-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

came Militant,' by the Rev. E. Fitch Burr; and 'Sunlight and Shadow,' a book for photographers, edited, with illustrations, by W. I. Lincoln Adams.

An *édition de luxe* of the British classic poets, beginning with Burns, Byron, Milton, Scott, and Wordsworth, will be immediately brought out by Thomas Whittaker, in new type and two styles of binding. He will also market in this country 'Bishops of the Day: A Biographical Dictionary of the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England and of All Churches in communion therewith throughout the World,' by Frederick S. Lowndes of Oxford.

From Ginn & Co.'s list of forthcoming educational works we select Gibbon's Memoirs, edited by Prof. O. F. Emerson; 'A History of English Literature,' by Prof. F. B. Gummere; 'Outline of the Philosophy of English Literature: Part i., The Middle Ages,' by Prof. Greenough White; 'Introduction to the Study of Literary Criticism: Volume i., Poetics and the Drama,' by Prof. Charles Mills Gayley; 'Science of Discourse,' by Prof. Arnold Tomkins; 'The Forms of Discourse,' by William B. Cairns; and 'The Principles of Argumentation,' by Prof. George P. Baker.

'The Herbartian Psychology Applied to Education,' by John Adams, President of the Educational Institute of Scotland, is about to be published by D. C. Heath & Co.

The Helman-Taylor Co., Cleveland, have in press a 'History of the Pequot War, from the contemporary accounts of Mason, Underhill, Vincent, and Gardener,' edited, with notes and an introduction, by Charles Orr, librarian of Case Library. The edition will be limited, and each copy will be numbered.

A work dealing with the 'Libraries of London,' their foundation, history, and special features, is now being prepared by Thomas Greenwood, editor of the 'Library Year-Book,' in collaboration with James D. Brown, librarian of the Clerkenwell Public Library, and author of biographies of musical persons. It seems passing strange that no such work should have already been undertaken; but, as a matter of fact, only very few persons know how London teems with libraries. The matter of the coming work will be arranged under the following heads: State Libraries, Society Libraries, Collegiate Libraries, Endowed Libraries, Club and Proprietary Libraries, Voluntary and Subscription Libraries, Church and Hospital Libraries, Municipal or Rate-Supported Libraries, Commercial Libraries, and Miscellaneous Libraries. The work is to be limited to an issue of about 300 copies, and will be illustrated. The price will be one guinea net.

It is not generally known, by the way, that there is a library attached to each of the great departments of state, in London, such as the Foreign Office, the Colonial Office, the Admiralty, and the India Office; each with its own staff. That at the India Office is said to contain about one hundred thousand volumes. A library which contains a number of books relating to the colonial period of the history of the United States is that of Sion College, on the Victoria Embankment. Much use of its collections was made by the late Bishop Wilberforce when writing his history of the 'Church in America.' At the reception given by the authorities of Sion College to the librarians, on the 13th of July last, many of the rarities of the library were exposed to the view of the guests. Among them was a volume of manuscript documents, by Dr. Thomas Bray and others, relating to the Maryland bishopric (1697, &c.), bequeathed to Sion College by Dr. Bray.

Those who are interested in Puritan nomenclature will be glad to learn that Canon Bardsley is about to bring out a new edition of his work upon that peculiar subject.

Cabot literature has grown large enough to require its own bibliography. Prompted by Mr. Foster of the Providence Public Library, Mr. G. P. Winship has prepared a list of works relating to both John and Sebastian. It is clearly arranged, and, though not absolutely exhaustive, will be of service to investigators in the field of early American discovery, as well as to students of the Cabot question proper.

The Centenary Edition of Carlyle's Works, which bears in this country the imprint of Messrs. Scribner, pursues its course with the fourth and final volume of the Cromwell, and 'Past and Present' in one volume, with Mr. Traill's customary introduction. The clear and elegant print of this edition is worthy of finality; but who will predicate that of any edition of any classic? A shade less luxurious in paper, but otherwise comparable in beauty, is the same publishers' Gadshill Edition of Dickens, under Mr. Andrew Lang's direction. Of this we now have 'David Copperfield' in two volumes, with the contemporary etchings. Mr. Lang's perfunctory opening words can hardly be thought to outweigh in interest or value the bibliographical introduction to this work written by the younger Dickens, to which one would never suspect Mr. Lang's manifest indebtedness.

Excellent specimens, also, of English bookmaking, with pretty condensed typography, are the Service & Paton reprints of Bulwer's 'Last Days of Pompeii' and Lever's 'Charles O'Malley' (New York: Putnams). Here there is no apparatus, but the illustrations are numerous and respectable.

The tenth volume of Mrs. Garnett's translations from Turgeneff comprises 'Dream Tales and Prose Poems' (Macmillan). In spite of all shortcomings, not to be too much insisted upon, this series is one to be prized.

From an interesting review by Prof. Carlo Salvioni, in the Milan *Perseveranza*, of August 19, 20, one learns of the attention paid by native scholars to the Milanese speech; first in the 'Vocabulary' of Francesco Cherubini, followed by that of Banfi, who builds upon his predecessor. Last year and this, a third 'Vocabolario Milanese-Italiano,' by Francesco Angiolini, and a 'Dizionario Milanese-Italiano,' by Cletto Arrighi, have appeared, and they are examined together by Salvioni, who, criticising the deficiencies of both, concludes that they meet a want and mark an advance, and that they should be used to check each other. Angiolini confines himself to the dialect of the "gente civile" within the walls, and adds a grammar; Arrighi includes the common people and the suburbs, and has no grammar. Both have a complementary Italian-Milanese vocabulary. It should be remarked that these useful works were evoked by prizes offered by the Ministry of Public Instruction in 1890 for dialect dictionaries throughout the peninsula, to be completed in three years, and that Angiolini won a third prize; Arrighi honorable mention, not having complied fully with the conditions.

A lawyer of Milan, Lodovico Gatta, formerly a member of the municipal government, has honored his city of glorious memories with an historical illustration of the nomenclature of its streets ('Milano e i Nomi delle sue Vie: Personaggi Illustri e Benemeriti: Momenti Storici'). Some 250 biographies and 20 episodes are embraced in this pious memorial.

If one should follow blindly M. Fernand Vandérem in his last clever book, 'Les Deux Rives' (Paul Ollendorff), he might naturally enough come to the conclusion that in Paris the day of judgment had come and gone without observation or any special notice, since the Seine between Auteuil and Bercy separates with perfect accuracy and justice the sheep from the goats. The Rive Gauche is the true fold, the chosen home of virtue, knowledge, and faith. It includes all that Paris holds of purity, industry, and of the familiar and domestic virtues. But the Rive Droite is a sad region, a home of dragons and serpents, a den of all the vices and all the vanities. It is attractive, nevertheless, to those who do not see its hollowness, and seductive to the innocent; and its attractions draw to high and frivolous society, to the Bourse and the Opera. However little one may agree with M. Vandérem's hasty and sweeping division of Paris and of Parisians, it still must be said that his book is full of an ability which quite surpasses mere cleverness. It shows much observation, much faithful representation of character and of life, and is full of interest from beginning to end. It is, in fact, one of the best novels of the year.

An improvement in the hanging of the pictures in the gallery of the Louvre may be called an event of cosmopolitan interest. The desirability of a thorough-going change of this kind is once more set forth, in a recent number of the *Journal des Débats*, by M. André Hallays, upon his return from a visit to the well-arranged collections of Berlin and Munich. Improvements have been made within the last few years in other sections of the museum, but no essential change can be effected in the picture gallery till the famous *salon carré*, with its accumulation of masterpieces, is given up and a series of rooms and cabinets created, each devoted to some great master or school. Under present conditions, M. Hallays declares—and thousands of visitors will agree with him—that, while there is no collection in the world as rich as that of the Louvre, there is none, also, in which the visitor is subjected to so much trouble and fatigue. We are glad to learn that there is some reason for hoping that a new system of classification will be adopted in a not too distant future, when "even those who know, or believe they know, the gallery of the Louvre thoroughly, will wonder at its undreamt-of wealth."

Another African language has taken its place among written languages with the beginnings of a literature. A Somali-English and English-Somali dictionary, together with a grammar and manual of sentences, has just been published in London through the generosity of Lord Delamere. It is the result of the many years' labor of Father Évangéliste de Larajasse, the head of the mission of the French Fathers at Berbera. With the proceeds of the sale it is proposed to publish a translation of the Gospels,

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

a collection of native poetry, and other interesting work. For writing Somali phonetically, Roman characters have been employed with their Latin pronunciation, some signs used in the Syriac alphabet, and one new letter representing the cerebral *d*. The Somalis are an enterprising and adventurous race of unknown origin, whose home for many centuries has been in the Horn of Africa, but who are to be found in most places on the east coast.

The Egyptian Government has, at the instance of the English and French authorities at Cairo, undertaken to have a classification made of all known papyri, whether preserved in Egypt or in other countries. The prime mover in this matter was Mr. Marshall Adams, the author of a book upon the 'Religion of Egypt.' To him, in the first place, Egyptologists are indebted; but the readiness with which the Egyptian Government has adopted the suggestion will be duly recognized by all scholars.

Although little has lately been heard of the Venezuelan boundary question, agents on each side are busily engaged in record-hunting and in the preparation of the respective "cases" to be laid before the Court of Arbitration. The "cases," or statements of claim, must, in terms of the treaty, be handed in by the 14th of February, 1898; the counter-cases by the 14th of June following, and the printed arguments by the 14th of September. The Court of Arbitration will hold its sittings about the 14th of November, 1898. The place of meeting will, most probably, be Paris. A question of some interest is, who will be the fifth Commissioner? It is not known who this important personage will be. The four Commissioners already appointed have the power to name the fifth, who will be their President. If within a certain time no such selection be made, then the appointment will be made by the King of Sweden.

The printer of the London *Figaro* was recently fined £5 and £2 2s. costs as being "a rogue and a vagabond," in terms of a law passed in the reign of George the Fourth, which provides that, "if any person shall publish any proposal or scheme for the sale of any ticket or tickets, chance or chances, in a lottery," he shall be punishable as therein provided. From March to June last, an advertisement of certain "headache powders" had appeared in the *Figaro*, under the heading "£20 Missing Word Competition." A description of the powders was given, with the omission of two words needed to perfect the sense. Six persons guessed the words omitted, and the prize was duly divided among them. The legal proceedings have, of course, given a substantial advertisement to the powders, at the expense of the *Figaro*.

Operators in Wall Street will no doubt be interested in at least one of the scenes in the new play which was to have been performed at the Drury Lane Theatre, London, yesterday for the first time; for a "Panic on the London Stock Exchange" is to be acted with as much of reality as the circumstances will admit. Servants and officers of the Exchange are to be employed in subordinate parts of the performance, while rehearsals of the play have been taking place under the supervision of members of the "House," as stockbrokers are sometimes called.

—Although the naming of Harvard College grew out of a considerable gift of books as well as of money, it was nearly thirty years before the appointment of the first librarian. We learn this fact from "The Librarians of Harvard College," issued as No. 52 of the Bibliographical Contributions of the Library, and compiled by Messrs. Potter and Bolton. The transitory and subordinate nature of the office is shown by the number of persons who held it, from 1667 to 1887—no fewer than sixty, of whom forty-four succeeded each other in the eighteenth century. But the list is very distinguished, embracing the best blood of Massachusetts. From the Library the incumbents went out to make their mark in the community, as our long-term modern librarians cannot do, and more than one rose to high eminence. The first, Solomon Stoddard, became a famous minister in western Massachusetts, and the grandfather of Jonathan Edwards. The second was Samuel Sewall, afterwards chief justice and diarist; the sixth, John Cotton, grandson of Anne Bradstreet, who brought upon himself the displeasure of the Rev. Increase Mather and atoned for it by leaving him "his widow, mother of his eight children," to be his second wife. The tenth was Anthony Stoddard, nephew of the first librarian; the twelfth, John Whiting, married John Cotton's daughter; the fourteenth, Nathaniel Gookin, was the nephew of Daniel, the third (and fifth), and married another daughter of John Cotton; and so the interrelationship ran on in an amusing manner, with the Sewall line most extensively involved. Elizur Holyoke (1757-58) was nephew of Edward (1709-12), who afterwards became President of the College, and whose daughter was about to marry Nathaniel Ward (1768) when that promising librarian died. Samuel Shapleigh (1793-1800), with whom and with Sidney Willard (1800-1805), great-grandnephew of Josiah Willard (1702-3), the century went out, left nearly his whole property, now a fund of $4,000, for the purchase of works in polite literature not Greek or Latin. The Rev. Andrews Norton (1813-21); Joseph Green Cogswell (1821-23), the virtual author of the Astor Library; Benjamin Peirce (1826-1831), the historian of the College and father of the race of mathematicians; Thaddeus William Harris (1831-56), son of Thaddeus Mason Harris (1791-93), and John Langdon Sibley (1856-77), with whom the chronicle ends, are the more famous of the nineteenth-century predecessors of Mr. Justin Winsor.

—Mr. J. Massey Rhind's statue of Stephen Girard, unveiled on May 20 in the Philadelphia City Hall Plaza, seems from the pictures to be a good performance well mounted. The occasion has been commemorated in a volume embodying the proceedings (Philadelphia: Lippincott), and illustrated with photographs of the statue and of the Girard College grounds and buildings. Girard's will is appended, and shows that he drew as fast a color line among the orphans who might enter the gates of his foundation as he did between visiting laymen and clergymen. Only white orphans are provided for, and careful instructions are given for the holding and ultimate sale of a Louisiana property with its slaves and their increase. In this particular, Girard compares with the Baltimore philanthropist McDonogh. The College has now been turning out graduates for half a century, and there is a vague allusion, in the report of the secretary of the committee on page 7, regarding their usefulness in various callings. We cannot, however, recall, in the biography of any American who has become eminent, the fact of his having been one of Girard's beneficiaries; nor have we recognized any such in the list of alumni who contributed to the statue fund. Does this point to an inferior system of education (in a State which notoriously lagged in the care for public instruction), or to a poor class of pupils, in illustration of Darwin's doctrine that heredity counts for more than environment? Would the result have been different if Girard College had been established, say, in Massachusetts?

—The return, on September 3, of the members of the Jackson-Harmsworth polar expedition closes the history of an exploration which has met with a degree of success not fully commensurate with the magnificent manner of its equipment, nor equal to the expectations of those who had been most directly associated with it. Few expeditions have been more lavishly fitted out, and of none, probably, has the leader been more absolute master or more independent to dictate the choice of his work. So far as concerns what is generally assumed to have been the main purpose of the expedition, the attaining of the farthest north if not the pole itself, the expedition has proved a failure, falling short of the attainments of six earlier explorations, viz., those of Parry (1827), Payer, Hall, Nares, Greely, and Nansen. While, manifestly, the non-extension northward of Franz-Josef Land, or the absence north of it of outlying land-masses calculated to serve as a base of support, contributed to this failure, it is not clear why no strenuous effort was made to attack the open sea (especially that part of it which Mr. Jackson has graciously named Victoria Sea) or its encumbering pack. Three years of comfortable habitation in a region lying on the 80th parallel of latitude is an experience that has befallen few expeditions of this kind, and credit is due to Mr. Jackson for the manner in which he conserved the health and strength of himself and his associates during this long period. Despite its shortcomings, the expedition has done much meritorious work, and the delineation and delimitation of the various land-masses which together constitute what may now properly be considered to be the Franz-Josef archipelago is in itself an important contribution to geographical knowledge.

—Criticisms of the work of the Austrian explorer, Julius Payer, in Franz-Josef Land have from time to time appeared in the communications by Mr. Jackson, leader of the Jackson-Harmsworth Polar Expedition, to the Royal Geographical Society of London. The endeavor to minimize the labors of one of the most conscientious and observant of travellers has not met with the justification which the supporting facts were thought to warrant. It remains true that many of the contours laid down by Payer have to be modified in the light of the more detailed determinations of both Jackson and Nansen, and it is equally true that some of the larger land-masses are now known to be associations of smaller tracts; but, in its broader aspects, the work of Payer, especially when the circumstances under which it was executed are considered, is of a strikingly high order, and does credit to a surveyor of rare ability. Prof. Ralph Copeland, Astronomer Royal for Scotland, has recently recalcu-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

lated Payer's cartographic data from the original copy of the survey in possession of the Royal Geographical Society, and bears testimony to the general accuracy of the Austrian explorer's constructions and to the value of his charts. The greatest error in the original map is the placing of the great Dove Glacier, which apparently does not exist, as Nansen found water over a large part of the area supposed to be occupied by it. It is almost certain that Payer mistook fog-banks on the eastern horizon for an ice-land—a deception which almost every Arctic voyager has experienced. Prof. Copeland closes his critical comments on the first map of Franz-Josef Land by stating that the region traversed by Payer "is laid down in such a way that any explorer following in his track will be able to correct the few oversights inevitably incidental to a first exploration."

—At a recent meeting of the Oxford Philological Society, held in Exeter College, an important paper was read by Mr. W. Lutoslawski of Drozdowo, Poland, summarizing some of the novel points in regard to the possible discovery of the order of the composition of the Platonic writings. These are to be fully set forth in his forthcoming work on the origin and growth of Plato's 'Logic,' now in the press (Longmans). His plan for a chronological arrangement of the Platonic writings is based on 58,000 coördinated observations of Plato's style. These consist in more than the investigation of the author's vocabulary, though that is not neglected. The tendency, for instance, to invent new words or compounds for certain classes of notions, varies in various works admitted to have been written at different periods. Plato, more than other prose writers, chose to use poetical words; he had a certain number of foreign words in his vocabulary. Rare words were sometimes indispensable for the expression of a specific thought. Common words, occurring frequently, such as particles, are not thus indispensable. The frequency with which any given characteristic word occurs in each dialogue has not been exhaustively registered, nor do we know how the frequency of such words actually used stands in relation to the number of cases where the word might possibly have been used, had Plato so chosen. Equally important is the arrangement of words, as contradistinguished from their selection; the comparative frequency in the use of substantives, as against the use of verbs, and the practice of inversion so conspicuous in Plato's later style. The great point to be kept in mind is that points in style can be used as sure tests of periods of composition only if they are very numerous. The number and also the variety in kind of observed points in style are of the essence of Mr. Lutoslawski's test. The variety of such tests will be found more complete as the investigation proceeds, taking into account such things as the intended or unintended rhythm that goes with certain arrangements of words, the use of proverbs, and the frequency of rhetorical figures. At the present stage of Platonic study, such microscopic investigations, competently made and carefully recorded, are of the very first importance for further progress. Much has been done, but more remains to be accomplished.

—In order to improve for future workers the method of interpreting facts about style, Mr. Lutoslawski seeks to establish certain degrees of greater or less importance in observed peculiarities of style. What may be called accidental peculiarities, such as the use of φιάλη only in 'Symposium,' 'Critias,' and 'Laws,' have little or no significance. The single use in the 'Phædo' of μετάσχεσις, however, has its significance. A higher degree of importance attaches to peculiarities repeated, occurring twice in a small dialogue, twice or three times in an ordinary dialogue, twice or four times in a large dialogue, or less than once on every twelve pages (Didot's pages are the safe unit for observations of the kind) of a longer dialogue. Really important peculiarities are those occurring more than twice in a small dialogue, more than thrice in an ordinary dialogue, more than four times in a large dialogue, and once in twelve pages of the 'Republic' or 'Laws.' Instances of the most important peculiarities of all are (a) κατά with the accusative prevailing over ἐν, (b) πᾶς and its compounds over five times in a page, (c) more than twenty-one prepositions in a page, (d) μέν τοι, occurring less than once in five pages. These are classed with words or idioms recurring very frequently, say 118 times or more in the 'Laws,' 97 times or more in the 'Republic.' The numbers of observed peculiarities in two works compared must differ at least by one-tenth for valid chronological inferences. The total number of peculiarities dealt with ought to be more than 150 in a dialogue of ordinary size. The 'Laws,' as the latest work of Plato, should be used as a standard of comparison. Mr. Lutoslawski makes an earnest appeal to scholars the world over for further inquiry to investigate the peculiarities of the order of words and of the construction of phrases, and declares that a great number of such observed peculiarities will determine the relative affinity of all dialogues, and lead to the definitive solution of all problems of Platonic chronology.

COURTHOPE'S HISTORY OF ENGLISH POETRY.

A History of English Poetry. By W. J. Courthope, Professor of Poetry in the University of Oxford. Vol. II. The Renaissance and the Reformation: Influence of the Court and the Universities. Macmillan. 1897.

Soon after the first volume of his 'History' was published, Mr. Courthope became Professor of Poetry at Oxford. How far these two events stand in the relation of cause and effect, we shall not allow ourselves to conjecture. The coincidence can hardly escape the future historian of nineteenth-century scholarship, who will doubtless interpret it in the easiest way. In what light he will regard the chair and the book in their joint and several bearing on his general subject is a curious, perhaps a fantastic, question, which may also be left to time.

For our own part, we took Mr. Courthope's first volume pretty seriously, reviewing it in these columns with a particularity which its pretensions and the reputation of the author seemed to demand. It attempted to cover the Middle Ages, and it showed, we were pained to discover, only a superficial acquaintance with mediæval literature. Its inaccuracies in detail were gross, and in some of the most important branches of the subject its errors were nothing short of labyrinthine. It ignored much of the best scholarly work of the last thirty years. In pronouncing on complicated and uncertain questions it was dogmatic with the dogmatism of a positive man who knows but half the evidence. In structure it was at once complex and disjointed; even the minute "Analysis of Contents" which stood at the beginning could not make the reader's progress easy or satisfactory. In plain terms, Mr. Courthope's first volume was a monumental failure. Yet, after all, the book was interesting. The author showed unusual power in framing and discussing large generalizations, which, if one could only control them in matters of fact, were not without stimulus. We looked forward, therefore, with some eagerness to the progress of the work, hoping that, when Mr. Courthope reached a period of which he had a competent knowledge, he might produce something of moment.

Obviously that period is not yet reached. The second volume, which lies before us, is a complete disappointment. In no respect is it an advance on its predecessor, and in some ways it betrays a lamentable falling off. It shows no improvement in point of scholarship; it is even more loosely constructed than the first volume, and, from beginning to end, it makes an impression rather of pervasive feebleness than of any kind of power. It is flat and dull. Its learning is superficial; its critical part is shallow and commonplace. Surely in his haste to bring to market the first fruits of his professorship Mr. Courthope has done scant justice whether to himself or to his university.

Yet the period included in this volume, 1450-1600, might well have inspired a good book. It implies, to use the ordinary terms, the transition from the Middle Ages to modern times, and is full of opportunities for the critic and the literary historian. The Renaissance, the Reformation, sixteenth-century French poetry and poetic theories in their effect on England, the far-reaching and very various influences of Italian literature, Spain in its relations to English Euphuism and English romance, the moral plays or moralities—whence they came and whither they were going; the rise of comedy and tragedy—such are some of the subjects with which Mr. Courthope had to concern himself. Every one of these catchwords suggests a host of subordinate but intensely interesting topics. The literary historian of this period has a vast opportunity, and—to the shame of English letters it must be confessed—an almost clear field. Much material has been collected; many clever essays have been written; good *obiter dicta* are abundant; but where shall one look for a comprehensive treatment of the whole matter, conducted on a basis of wide and sound learning, in accordance with just principles of criticism, historical and comparative as well as æsthetic? Such a work, if ever it comes to pass, will not cumber its text with biographical and bibliographical detail beyond what is necessary and significant. It will distinguish between the "history of poetry" and the "lives of the poets." Above all, it will shun the see-saw method, so much in vogue, by which the reader, after a breathless ascent into the (often somewhat rarefied) air of generalities, is let down with a bump to the contemplation of uninterpreted facts and figures,

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

only to be carried up into the vague again before he has got his bearings.

Mr. Courthope, we make haste to remark, is not without some conception of the possibilities of his subject and of the method that ought to be followed in treating it. He mentions most of the important problems and discusses some of them at considerable length. As to general method, the opening chapter sets forth, with considerable pomp, a plan of campaign which, the reader thinks, may come to something. "The purpose of this history," we are told, "is to trace the course of our poetry rather by the stream of the national thought and imagination than by that of the national language, and this involves a constant reference to the state of morals and politics in Europe at large." Again: "The sixteenth century is the great age of transition from mediæval to modern times; the chief poets of the period work from the basis of culture provided for them by the Middle Ages, but they are alive to all the influences of their own age; and, like their ancestor Chaucer, they avail themselves of ideas and feelings flowing in upon them from a foreign source." We must therefore have, continues Mr. Courthope, a clear notion of the state of mind of Catholic Europe at the beginning of the sixteenth century, and he therefore proposes "to illustrate the working of the ancient system in Europe on the eve of the Reformation by reference to the Diet of Augsburg held in 1518." Having thus got "a conception of the organic whole," "I shall then," he says, "turn to the parts, and seek in the most characteristic literature of the sixteenth century what I before sought in the literature of the fourteenth—a general idea of the movement of European liberty."

This sounds attractive. "Comparison" seems to be provided for—comparison not only of literature but of the political and social movements of which literature is the expression. We are not to be confined to insular letters, it seems, but all Europe is to be focussed for us. Some light, we imagine, and considerable vitality ought to be the result. A moment's thought, however, reveals the weakness of Mr. Courthope's programme. He will look at literature from no point of view but the political. Art, æsthetics, imagination, creative enthusiasm, poetry itself—all these terms have no meaning for him unless he can see in them a mere expression of the πολιτικὸν ζῶον. Even religious, moral, and social conditions, which fall within his limited scheme and which he really intends to study, reduce themselves to politics in his crucible.

Inadequate as this method is, it would, if consistently followed by a powerful writer well acquainted with all the facts, produce, beyond question, a masterly work—not a real history of literature, doubtless, but a contribution to the history of civilization which all literary students would find enlightening. Mr. Courthope, however, is not true to his own programme. From time to time he asserts his point of view, and, in a paragraph or two of generalities, endeavors to persuade himself that he is following a definite plan. But his treatment has no steadiness. When he comes to a particular author he proceeds in the ordinary fashion: a few pages of "cyclopædia" biography, a few pages of extracts or summaries, some fragments of machine-made criticism, and an academic peroration. The weakness and commonplace of some of the chapters are depressing. Their lack of connection with each other is evidence of the feeble hold which Mr. Courthope has on his general plan or on any plan whatever.

The chapter on Sir Philip Sidney may serve to illustrate these strictures. Here Mr. Courthope has made a distinct attempt at continuity. The chapter itself is entitled "Court Romance: Sir Philip Sidney"; that which precedes is called "Court Dialect: John Lyly"; that which follows, "Court Romance: Edmund Spenser." Elaborate transitional paragraphs are provided. "While one section of Elizabeth's court," writes Mr. Courthope, "occupied itself with forming out of the memories of chivalry a dialect and code of manners fitted to distinguish itself as a caste [*this is our historian's summing up of the Euphuistic movement!*], the more generous spirits endeavored to preserve an ideal of knighthood which should have a practical bearing on the circumstances of their own life." Thus Sidney is introduced to the reader. Then, at the beginning of the chapter on Spenser, an effort is made to tack the three chapters together by the following remark: "The genius of Spenser . . . covered at once the movement developed by the Euphuists for the refinement of the national language, and the ideals of those who aimed at adapting the ideals of chivalry to the requirements of the court." Lyly, Sidney, and Spenser, it will be observed, are conceived by Mr. Courthope to have certain definite relations to each other. It might be expected, therefore, that his treatment of each of them would be guided, in the main, by this conception. Nothing of the kind! The chapter on Sidney reveals itself, on examination, as a mere piece of "space writing." It is hastily and clumsily huddled together out of the most accessible materials. It contains nothing new, nor does it throw any new light on the familiar facts. Mechanical as it is, it may be conveniently analyzed by a mechanical process—that of counting the pages—and no more delicate analysis is needed to resolve it into its elements.

In all, then, Mr. Courthope allots thirty-two pages to Sir Philip Sidney. First we have a page of exordium, quite in the manner of a popular lecture, and ending with a "general utility" sentence: "This harsh contrast between mediæval memories and modern realities produced in many high-spirited English gentlemen a state of feeling which is vividly represented in the life and writings of Sir Philip Sidney." There follows an eleven-page account of Sidney's life, compiled, with due credit, from Fox-Bourne, and including a page and a half of quotations from Languet and others. Next comes a discussion on "romance," with some remarks about Montemayor and Sanazzaro. This occupies four pages. It is remarkable chiefly for some strange ideas about the old French *romans d'aventure*, on which is based a diverting bit of distinction-making. Between seven and eight pages are then filled with a very superficial criticism of the 'Arcadia,' including a page-and-a-half summary of the plot and a page of stylistic specimens. Then come seven pages on 'Astrophel and Stella,' just half of them devoted to a heavy though sensible disquisition on the supposed biographical value of these poems. Five sonnets are quoted in full, and thus two pages are provided for. The chapter then ends with a labored peroration, a page in length, and suggesting, like the exordium, a popular lecture.

The discerning reader will perceive the significance of these statistics. The chapter contains much familiar fact and very little criticism. It is in no way distinguishable from the humdrum literary manual except by the leisurely and ineffectual pomp of its pseudo-Gibbonesque style. "*Arcadia* and *Astrophel* and *Stella* are equally to be regarded as the outpourings of an ardent and chivalrous nature, long pent in the midst of uncongenial surroundings, and at length permitted to find utterance during a period of enforced leisure. In the 'Astrophel' Sidney gives utterance alike to the amorous traditions of chivalry and to the ardors of his own imagination." "The extraordinary medley of elements out of which the fiction [of the 'Arcadia'] is composed, helps to produce that incongruous ideal effect against which Horace warns the inventor of fiction at the opening of his *Ars Poetica*." This is the kind of thing which the Oxford Professor of Poetry thinks important enough to print. One searches the chapter in vain for anything which has not been said before—anything which (a few misconceptions apart) is not to be included in the limbos of "things generally known" and "things that may be taken for granted."

We have selected the chapter on Sidney for particular comment, not because it is below the level of the rest, but because it is, on the whole, a fair sample of the volume. If we had wished to illustrate Mr. Courthope's neglect of the results of recent scholarship, we might have referred to his chapter on Wyatt. If we had been inclined to dwell on his confidence in pronouncing upon subjects which lie out of his welkin, we might have adverted to his preposterous remarks about the English language (at pp. 57 and 94) and about translation in the Anglo-Saxon and Middle English periods (at p. 131). If we had wished to amuse our readers, we might have quoted the solemnity with which Warton is referred to (at p. 103) as if he were a Herald's College for the English poets. If, finally, we had wished to take the book at its very worst, we might have dissected the chapter on "The Evolution of the English Poetical Drama," which is a very dismal piece of hack-work, and exemplifies every imaginable quality from which a 'History of English Poetry' should be free. In concluding, we can but express the hope that Mr. Courthope will let his third volume ripen before he sends it to press.

MAITLAND'S DOMESDAY BOOK.

Domesday Book and Beyond: Three Essays in the Early History of England. By Frederic William Maitland, LL.D., Downing Professor of the Laws of England in the University of Cambridge. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1897.

It is not often that a reviewer can safely use the term "epoch-making"; but to Prof. Maitland's book it may be applied with confidence, and in its true sense. When the future historian of historiography comes to write his chapter on the study of the social and political origins of the English people, he will probably point to the earlier sections of Bishop Stubbs's 'Constitutional History' as summing up in compact and cautious form the conclusions of one whole great school of industrious and enthusiastic scholars. He will then point to Mr. Seebohm's

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

'English Village Community,' and to various English statements of the views of M. Fustel de Coulanges, as somewhat unexpectedly reopening the discussion by calling in question what had come to be regarded as settled fundamentals. Over the literature of the next few years, including though it did at least one loudly trumpeted work, he will pass rapidly, and he will find the next distinct stage in the course of investigation in the present work of Prof. Maitland. For, like all the books which really mark an epoch in the progress of science, this of Mr. Maitland is no mere defence of a threatened position. It advances to a new position, which, if closer to the older one than to its critics, is yet other than the older one. We would not, perhaps, apply to historiography what some writers are fond of saying of philosophy. We would not speak, for example, of Prof. Maitland as taking up into his doctrine what may be regarded as the valuable elements in the doctrine of Mr. Seebohm. The antithesis between the views of the one and the other is as sharp as can well be: there is, indeed, one respect in which the antithesis is even sharper than it was between Mr. Seebohm and Bishop Stubbs. But, without speculating on what might have been, it is clear that Mr. Maitland's book, as we have it and when we have it, is very much the result of the antagonistic movement of thought called out by 'The English Village Community,' and also that it recognizes and deals with elements in the problem, such as the yardland, to which Mr. Seebohm was the first effectively to call our attention.

In form Prof. Maitland's book is a model of the tentative. It is made up of three "Essays"; one on "Domesday Book"; one on "England before the Conquest," devoted mainly to the Anglo-Saxon land-books; and one to the "Hide." In each of these he fetches a very wide compass; he approaches the matter at issue at a dozen points; he exhausts the phraseology of conjecture, of dubiety, of suggestion, of caution; and ever and anon there are purple patches of self-depreciation. Nevertheless, certain sufficiently positive conclusions gradually emerge which are capable of brief statement.

Mr. Maitland, then, thinks of what afterwards became England as in the main settled by English freemen cultivating their land with the aid perhaps of a slave or so apiece, but unaffected to any noteworthy extent by any previous agricultural system. So far he agrees with the Germanists. To each such adult freeman, head of a family, he assigns in the beginning, as his normal holding, a long hundred (120) of the local 'acres'—which is his interpretation of the *hide*. But now, unlike all those, from Sir Henry Maine and Bishop Stubbs downward, who have been affected by "the mark theory," he altogether refuses to make this freeman's holding subject to any sort of communal ownership. There were, indeed, from the first, apparently over a large part of the country, groups of more or less contiguous residences which grew later into the mediæval village as we know it. The holdings were, moreover, composed of intermingled acre-strips; but they were bound to one another only by the customary rotation of crop and fallow, which "must have appeared less as the outcome of human ordinance than as an unalterable arrangement established by the nature of things" (p. 347); and private ownership was as complete as the strong sense of the family tie would allow it to be. There was no substantial village moot; the manorial court was the result of later "feudalizing" tendencies; and much of the "communalism" of subsequent centuries was apparently the consequence of "seignorial pressure." The growth of seignorial authority and of "the manorial system" Mr. Maitland explains as the slow result of many causes—the transfer to private lords of royal rights, the "commendation" of the weak to the strong, the encroachments of magnates, lay and ecclesiastical. Above all, the pressure of Danegeld was "fully capable of transmuting a whole nation" (p. 8). It is Mr. Maitland's most novel, and, so far as we can see at present, his most valuable contention that *manerium* in Domesday is a technical term, meaning nothing more nor less than "a house against which geld is charged," and responsible for the geld which lies on any land that is in any way subject to the power of its holder (pp. 120, 121). Agrarian history, instead of being characterized by the permanence of relations, as Mr. Seebohm, in agreement with the spirit of modern evolutionary thought, would have us believe, "becomes more catastrophic as we trace it backwards" (p. 365). Of these catastrophes the Norman conquest was one of the greatest. The formation of what we may by anticipation call "manors" had gone a very long way before that event; but much still remained to be done before the external symmetry of the thirteenth century was realized; and of this the greater part was accomplished by the Norman Conquest and the violence that accompanied it. "We cannot treat either the legal or the economic history of our peasantry as a continuous whole; it is divided into two parts by the red thread of the Norman Conquest" (p. 60).

In this attempted reconstruction of early English social history, there is much that seems to promise solidity. The explanation of the original meaning of "manor" will probably be pretty generally accepted. That, however, does not necessarily carry with it any very far-reaching conclusions. Very different in that respect is Mr. Maitland's argument concerning the *hide*. If there was from the first only one *hide:* if that *hide* consisted of as much as 120 acres of arable land with the appurtenant pasture; if that was the ordinary holding of the great majority of the heads of cultivating families—then it does seem difficult to find any considerable space for provincial *villæ coloni*, and *servi*. The proof that is offered us is cumulative, and needs minute examination in detail. How much of it Mr. Maitland could surrender and yet produce conviction remains to be seen. But certainly much of it is open to grave doubt. For instance, it is requiring us to attribute either great stupidity or great deceitfulness to those who drew up the early land charters, to ask us to believe that the technical language of Roman law for the conveyance of ownership was employed for a mere conveyance of a "superiority."

Mr. Maitland regards himself as but opening the way to further investigation, and that investigation has a sufficiently hard task before it. There is one consideration to which we would invite attention. If the *yardland* arose simply from the fissure of the *hide*, it is surely surprising that the process of disintegration should so very generally have gone just to the point of producing the *yardland*, and no further. Much of the effectiveness of Mr. Seebohm's argument was due to the impression of uniformity it produced. Mr. Maitland has sought with skill and success to weaken the impression; he delights in revealing heterogeneity and irregularity. Nevertheless, if we are not very much mistaken, over the larger part of England and over wide districts of Germany the thirty-acre *yard*, or *hufe*, was so far more common than any other for the *plenus villanus*, the *voll-spanner*, as to be deemed normal. There may be reasons, in the productivity of the soil or in the spread of fashion, for this result, but it is not what we should have expected on Mr. Maitland's hypothesis.

But 'Domesday Book and Beyond' is not to be lightly disposed of. Students will have to work over it for several years to come; and though it is in great measure caviare to the general, there is perhaps no work in which profound learning is so gracefully and amusingly handled.

Charles Sealsfield, Sein Leben und seine Werke. Von A. B. Faust. Weimar: Emil Felber; New York: G. E. Stechert.

"Der Dichter beider Hemisphären" is the descriptive subtitle of the first systematic attempt to furnish a biography of the once widely read but now almost forgotten Charles Sealsfield. The author of this volume is Prof. A. B. Faust of Wesleyan University, who about seven years ago began to collect his materials at Johns Hopkins, and there presented as his doctor dissertation a study of Sealsfield's style and influence. The work thus emanates from this hemisphere where Sealsfield lived, although printed in the other where he was born. The circumstance has its appropriateness, for Sealsfield's best-known writings are essentially American, although phrased in German. He deserves to be named with Bret Harte, Cooper, and Hawthorne for his vivid and faithful portrayals of American types, now vanishing or quite extinct, which represent certain stages in the history of our civilization. The fearless squatter, the sturdy pioneer, the patriarchal Southern planter, and the New York dandy, who is known to this generation chiefly through the stiff fashion-plate prints of a half-century ago, are all still living in the pages of Sealsfield. The lucid descriptions, too, which he gives of European conditions prior to 1850 have special interest for the American reader, since it was out of those conditions that the great immigration arose which so profoundly influenced the development of this country. Longfellow admired Sealsfield, and in his journal we find this entry: "In the evening F. read our favorite Sealsfield. His descriptions of the Southwest are very striking. The Creole Ball quite life-like, and the passage through the cypress swamp terrible." There is, as Prof. Faust admits, more matter than art in these graphic narratives, and no psychological analysis, but they have the absorbing interest of sketches drawn from life by a quick observer with unfailing humor. It was the sketchy character of these works, perhaps, that rendered them so accessible a treasure-house for plagiarists. Moreover, they were written under an assumed name and never attained great popularity in America. All things favored the literary appropriator, and Capt. Mayne Reid in his 'Wild Life' boldly reprinted in their entirety seve-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ral chapters from Sealsfield's 'Cabin Book.'

The life of Sealsfield possesses the same romantic interest that attaches to the mysterious personalities of Kaspar Hauser and the man with the iron mask. He attained his popularity during the first half of this century as "the great unknown." When the author revealed himself it was as Charles Sealsfield, and no clue remained to connect him with the monk, Carl Postl, who, in 1823, had fled from the monastery in Prague, leaving no trace. Not until the author's will was opened in 1864 was this unsuspected identity established. By his own directions the initials C. P. were placed upon his tombstone, and the date of Sealsfield's birth, March 3, 1793, corresponds with that of Carl Postl. It was thus an unknown monk of Prague, who, with Gutzkow and Jungdeutschland, assisted in the political and literary revolution which made for representative government on the one hand and for realism on the other. Speaking of Sealsfield's feverish unrest, the late Prof. Treitschke said: "In such powerful but unschooled talents the spirit of the age is mostly clearly revealed. Sealsfield's writings prove how irresistibly the time was pressing on towards realism." And these realistic sketches have a lasting value which Americans have not sufficiently recognized. Numerous translations of these works exist, and, if Prof. Faust's work should be translated and abridged, attention would again be directed to Sealsfield's strong and striking characterizations. A real service would thus be rendered to those who wish to study America in her turbulent efforts to transplant an old civilization to a new continent on a grand scale and under untried conditions.

Naples in the Nineties: A Sequel to Naples in 1888. By E. Neville-Rolfe, B.A., of Heacham Hall, Norfolk, H. B. M. Consul for South Italy, etc. With illustrations. London: Adam & Charles Black: New York: Macmillan. 1897.

In the first page of this book reference is made to 'Naples in 1888,' joint work of the present author and another. It appears that, in Mr. Neville-Rolfe's opinion, Naples is changing with such rapidity that it is far easier to write a new book than to issue a revised edition of one only nine years old. The keynote of it, perhaps, rings most strongly in chapter ix., of which the title is "An Old World Journey," and from the opening words of which it appears that an ancestor of the author's made "the grand tour" some time before 1759, and left a diary. This gentleman was Edmund Rolfe, Esquire and master of Heacham Hall, Norfolk, as his title-page shows that our author is in his day also. The diary is printed in full, occupying eighty pages. It is, for its length, as interesting as anything in Pepys or Evelyn, and to read it alone is well worth the price of the book before us. In calling it the keynote, we are not conscious of doing injustice to the more modern writer, although he has been a continuous resident in the south of Italy, whereas his ancestor travelled rapidly, for his time, with the disadvantages of the slow communication of the eighteenth century. In fact, this is in no respect an exhaustive treatise on any part of the subject. Neither the cities and their monuments, nor the country and its productions; neither the people and their doings, nor the Government and its influence, are treated with any great thoroughness; but the whole is very interesting and can be read from beginning to end without effort by any one who is prepared to except certain errors of statement. Even these are rather inaccuracies than mistakes. Thus there is an odd, blundering description of the substructure of a Roman amphitheatre and of the relation which that structure held to the Greek circus. And again, it is stated that, at Herculaneum, the famous Villa and Basilica have both been filled up again. Certainly, if our author had ever visited Herculaneum, he would have known that the Villa and the Theatre lie under fifty to ninety feet of solid, if soft, rock, and have never been, for one moment, open to the light of day. This, however, is an error which is not uncommon in writing about Herculaneum; for the fact that a small part of the city has been opened to the air, and that other parts, not now open, have been so in the past, and also that the galleries under ground were filled up with the débris obtained by excavating other galleries, tends to confuse the mind of the student and to falsify the guide-books. Our author seems to feel the importance of the burial and gradual recovery of whole tracts of waterside between Vesuvius and the Bay of Naples. It is rare that any writer on this region seems rightly to grasp the immense significance to the whole of Italy of that series of earthquakes and eruptions which marked the reign of Titus. Not Herculaneum and Pompeii alone, but the whole belt of country between Naples and the peninsula of Sorrento, was changed by it, and the Bay of Naples, beautiful now, must have been immeasurably more beautiful before that series of natural cataclysms. In connection with this it is good to see that Mr. Neville-Rolfe appreciates the extraordinary picturesqueness of the site of Naples itself, and dwells at length upon that superb acropolis which still stands at the head of Santa Lucia, and separates old Naples from the new city which is building up on the seaside northwest of the Greco-Roman town.

That sort of appreciation of foreign, of Roman Catholic, of Southern manners as distinguished from home, from Protestant and from Northern feeling, which is so marked in half a dozen of the earlier poems of Robert Browning, is visible throughout this book. When a traveller lives long enough in a country to understand pretty well the details of what he sees, and still preserves through it all his feeling for its novelty and the radical difference between what he sees and what his readers at home are familiar with—then, indeed, he is qualified to be an interesting writer, and that is what Mr. Neville-Rolfe assuredly is.

The Genealogical Magazine: A Journal of Family History, Heraldry, and Pedigrees. London: Elliot Stock; New York: J. W. Bouton. 1897.

The first number of this magazine was issued in May, in quarto form, 64 pages to each part, and the four numbers now in hand enable us to judge fairly of its intended scope. Although the English race is the only one which has preserved the materials for preparing genealogies of a large portion of its members, there is a wide difference between the aims and methods of English and American genealogists. Everywhere, except in England, prior to 1630 the records remaining are almost exclusively those of the limited class of the nobility. In France and Germany there was, indeed, for two centuries before that date a certain percentage of a middle class whose members had hereditary surnames, records of births, deaths, and marriages, and of property, but the unhappy wars which have ravaged both countries have caused the destruction of most of these archives. In England these records have been largely preserved, and while the pedigrees of peers have been well traced, the systematic subsidence of the junior branches, male and female, of the nobility into the ranks of the commoners has extended the public interest in the pedigree of even the highest ranks, as probable or ascertained ancestors.

In America, especially in the case of persons of English descent, a genealogy begins with a definite ancestor, a first settler, whose descendants are not only of equal rank in blood, but generally in social position. Fortunately, also, our ancestors promptly invented a system of public records by which pedigree-making is reduced to a careful scrutiny of documents easily accessible.

In England the fact that the manufacture of authentic pedigrees, at least in regard to honors and coats-of-arms, has been for centuries the monopoly of the officers of the Crown, the College of Heralds, has given a distinctly aristocratic tinge to all genealogical writing. "Peerages" and "Baronetages" have been printed for nearly two hundred years, but magazines devoted to genealogy are of very recent date. Leaving out of the reckoning the facts recorded in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for the last century, the first English magazine was the *Herald and Genealogist*, founded by John Gough Nichols in 1863, continued through eight volumes, and terminated by his death in 1874. We do not ignore his earlier issues, the 'Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica' (1833-1843), nor the still existing 'Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica,' of Dr. Joseph Jackson Howard; but these are not magazines. Of late years, local antiquarian societies have started small magazines devoted to various county affairs, but the work under notice seems to be the true successor to Mr. Nichols's admirable magazine.

The new candidate for public favor, edited by Arthur Charles Fox-Davies, is distinctively English in form and scope, but the "reading matter" is largely in excess of the tabular pedigrees. We note, for the information of Americans, articles on Bradford's 'History of New Plymouth' and on the capture of Washington in 1814. Other articles are on the Shakspere family, being scattered notes on the many persons of the name in Warwickshire; on Lord Nelson's family; on the Lane and Strode families; and two or three essays upon certain peerages wherein obscure junior branches are carefully traced. This latter subject is one of special fascination to English genealogists, who wage war for years in innumerable essays to define the relationship between William, Earl of Warren, and William the Conqueror, or upon the question whether some summons to the House of Lords under the Plantagenets did or did not create a new peerage with a new line of descent. We hope that the editor of this magazine will soon turn his attention to the example set by the late Col. Joseph L. Chester, and successfully followed by the present Henry F. Waters, and explore and make

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

available some part of the valuable manuscripts remaining in the English archives. We want more copies of wills, deeds, and family papers; more facts and fewer dissertations.

We close by putting in comparison with this select and exclusive magazine the work of our own genealogists. The *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* has completed its fiftieth volume, issued regularly every quarter, and containing the history of thousands of families. To be sure, we have no families to trace earlier than 1630; but are there no families in England, outside the "landed gentry," who have a pride in their ancestry for the past eight generations?

The People for whom Shakespeare Wrote. By Charles Dudley Warner. Harper & Brothers. 1897. Pp. vi, 1897. Illustrated.

There seems to be always room for a new book about Shakspere, and even were the public not "overkind" to Mr. Warner, as his preface intimates, it would doubtless enjoy seeing the old contemporary materials, describing the temper and manners of the Tudor and Stuart ages, recast in a concise and lively form. Harrison has been more largely drawn upon than any other author. There are fewer references than might be expected to Shakspere's own brothers in the dramatic craft. More is said about Ben Jonson than any other. The allusions to Beaumont, Fletcher, and Massinger are scanty indeed; yet all three, and the first two in particular, are rich in material for Mr. Warner's purpose. A more serious criticism would appear to be that there is little or nothing like critical research. The "*English Mercury* of 1588" is spoken of as the first newspaper as if it were exactly as genuine as the *Boston News-Letter*. Yet the forgery has been exploded again and again, at least as long ago as 1839. In speaking of the Earl of Essex, Mr. Warner strangely calls him more than once by the modern corrupt form Devereaux instead of Devereux. On page 4, the well-known John Donne has his name printed Dunne; if this is the spelling of Sir Richard Baker, it shows how the name was pronounced.

One trait of Shakspere's age escapes mention in this work, as in most others on the same subject, which is yet hardly to be missed by an attentive reader of its literature. This is the greater tenderness of feeling and expression manifested by men to men. There is, between Shakspere's heroes and those of his compeers, a tone of romantic and effusive affection which may seem feeble and sentimental to the sternly matter-of-fact friendship of to-day, but which lends a very soothing and charming influence to the roughness and boisterousness of that day. A most beautiful instance will be remembered in "Henry V.," act iv., where the death of the Duke of York is described.

For one bit of old-fogyism we may well be thankful. Mr. Warner is actually so far behind the age as not even to allude to Shakspere's being anybody but Shakspere.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Ashworth, Alice. Just a Little Boy. F. Warne & Co. 75c.
Balzac, H. de. Seraphita. London: Dent; New York: Macmillan. $1.50.
Bedford, Rev. W. K. R. The Blazon of Episcopacy. 2d ed. Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Henry Frowde.
Bell, Lilian. From a Girl's Point of View. Harpers. $1.25.
Beman, Prof. W. W., and Smith, Prof. D. E. Higher Arithmetic. Boston: Ginn & Co. 10c.
Bemmelen, Dr. J. F. van, and Hooyer, G. B. Guide to the Dutch East Indies. London: Luzac & Co.
Betz, L. P. Die Französische Litteratur im Urteile Heinrich Heine's. Berlin: Wilhelm Gronau.
Blakeley, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Fairy Starlight and the Dolls. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.
Boswell, James. The Life of Samuel Johnson. [Temple Classics.] Vol. II. London: Dent; New York: Macmillan. 50c.
Brinton, Prof. D. G. Religions of Primitive Peoples. Putnams. $1.50.
Butts, Lieut. E. L. Manual of Physical Drill, U. S. Army. Appletons. $1.25.
Callwell, Major C. E. The Effect of Maritime Command on Land Campaigns since Waterloo. London: Blackwood; New York: Scribners. $2.50.
Carlyle, Thomas. Cromwell's Letters and Speeches. Vol. IV. Past and Present. [Centenary Edition.] Scribners. Each $1.25.
Carman, Bliss. Ballads of Lost Haven: a Book of the Sea. Boston: Lamson, Wolffe & Co. $1.
Chapman's Homer's Odyssey. 2 vols. [Temple Classics.] London: Dent; New York: Macmillan. $1.
Chester, Prof. A. H. A Catalogue of Minerals. 3d ed. London: Chapman & Hall; New York: John Wiley & Sons.
Clark, J. C. L. Tom Moore in Bermuda. Lancaster, Mass.: The Author.
Church, W. C. Ulysses S. Grant, and the Period of National Preservation and Reconstruction. Putnams. $1.50.
Church, S. H. John Marmaduke: A Romance of the English Invasion of Ireland in 1649. Putnams. $1.25.
Clifford, Mrs. W. K. Mrs. Keith's Crime. New ed. Harpers. $1.
Comba, T. E. Compendium of Italian Pronunciation. New York: Truslove & Comba.
Cooley, Prof. Le Roy C. Students' Manual of Physics. American Book Co. $1.
Cranch, C. P. The Æneid of Virgil Translated into English Blank Verse. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.
Croker, B. M. Beyond the Pale. A Novel. New York: R. F. Fenno & Co.
Crowest, F. J. Verdi: Man and Musician. His Biography with Especial Reference to his English Experiences. Scribners. $2.50.
Dawson, Sir J. W. Relics of Primeval Life. F. H. Revell Co. $1.50.
Dennis, Rev. J. S. Christian Missions and Social Progress. Vol. I. F. H. Revell Co. $2.50.
Devere, William. Jim Marshall's New Planner, and Other Western Stories. Chicago: M. Wilmark & Sons.
Dickens, Charles. David Copperfield. 2 vols. [Gadshill Edition.] Scribners. $3.
Duncan, Grace L. The Chautauqua Year Book. Boston: The Pilgrim Press.
Escott, T. H. S. Social Transformations of the Victorian Age. Scribners. $2.
Fitch, Sir Joshua. Thomas and Matthew Arnold, and Their Influence on English Education. Scribners. $1.
Fitzgerald, Percy. Boswell's Life of Johnson and A Tour to the Hebrides. Whittaker. $2.00.
Gardiner, S. R. What Gunpowder Plot Was. Longmans, Green & Co. $1.50.
Gautier, Théophile. Captain Fracasse. Boston: L. C. Page & Co. $1.25.
Gordon, Col. H. R. Pontiac, Chief of the Ottawas: A Tale of the Siege of Detroit. E. P. Dutton & Co. $1.50.
"Hamlet." [Riverside Literature Series.] Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 40c.
Harland, Marion. An Old-Field School-Girl. Scribners. $1.25.
Heysinger, Dr. L. W. The Scientific Basis of Medicine.
Hoot, H. W. The Columbian Parliamentary Compend, or Rules of Debate. Scientific Publishing Co.
Hough, E. The Story of the Cowboy. Appletons. $1.50.
Howe, H. C. Rags and Tatters: Verse. The Author.
Howells, W. D. An Open-Eyed Conspiracy: An Idyl of Saratoga. Harpers. $1.
Jackson, Catherine Charlotte. The Court of the Tuileries. 2 vols. Boston: L. C. Page & Co. $3.50.
Judson, Prof. H. P. The Young American: A Civic Reader. Maynard, Merrill & Co. 60c.
Kipling, Rudyard. The Light that Failed. [Outward Bound Edition. Vol. IX.] Scribners.
Knowles, F. L. Practical Hints for Young Writers, Readers, and Book-Buyers. Boston: L. C. Page & Co. 50c.
Koschwitz, Prof. Eduard. Anleitung zum Studium der Französischen Philologie. Marburg: N. G. Elwert; New York: Lemcke & Buechner.
Krüger, Prof. Gustav. History of Early Christian Literature. Macmillan. $2.
Külpe, Prof. Oswald. Introduction to Philosophy. London: Sonnenschein; New York: Macmillan. $1.60.
Lang, Andrew. Modern Mythology. Longmans, Green & Co. $3.
Lee, Mrs. Frank. Redmond of the Seventh. Boston: Pilgrim Press. $1.25.
Lee, Sidney. Dictionary of National Biography. Vol. LI., Scoffin-Sheares. Macmillan. $3.75.
Lever, Charles. Charles O'Malley, the Irish Dragoon. London: Service & Paton; New York: Putnams. $1.
Lillie, Arthur. Croquet, its History, Rules, and Secrets. Longmans, Green & Co. $1.50.
Lodge, H. C. Certain Accepted Heroes, and Other Essays in Literature and Politics. Harpers. $1.50.
Lyall, Edna. Wayfaring Men. Longmans, Green & Co.
Lytton, Lord. The Last Days of Pompeii. London: Service & Paton; New York: Putnams. $1.
Masterman, Rev. J. H. The Age of Milton. [Handbooks of English Literature.] London: Bell; New York: Macmillan. $1.
Mathews, Prof. Shailer. The Social Teaching of Jesus. Macmillan. $1.50.
Maurice, Maj.-Gen. National Defences. Macmillan. $1.
Maury, Max. The Little Klondyke Nugget. Chicago: Laird & Lee.
McEvoy, Bernard. Away from Newspaperdom, and Other Poems. Toronto: George N. Morang. $1.
Miall, Prof. L. C. Thirty Years of Teaching. Macmillan. $1.
Mifflin, Lloyd. At the Gates of Song: Sonnets. Boston: Estes & Lauriat.
Modern Locomotives. Illustrated. New York: The Railroad Gazette. $7.
Oxford House Papers. Third Series. Longmans, Green & Co. 75c.
Parish, Edmund. Hallucinations and Illusions. A Study of the Fallacies of Perception. London: Walter Scott; New York: Scribners. $1.25.
Patterson, Calvin. The American Word-Book. American Book Co. 25c.
Pierson, Clara D. Among the Meadow-People. E. P. Dutton & Co. $1.25.
Poor, H. V. The Money Question. H. V. & H. W. Poor.
Saintsbury, Prof. George. Sir Walter Scott. [Famous Scots Series.] Scribners. 75c.
Schulz, Dr. Aurel, and Hammar, August. The New Africa: A Journey up the Chobe and down the Okovanga Rivers. Scribners. $6.
Scripture, E. W. The New Psychology. Scribners. $1.25.
Selections from the Poems of Timothy Otis Paine. Putnams.
Sergieff, John Iliytch ("Father John"). My Life in Christ. Cassell.
Smith, G. C. M. Edward the Third. [Temple Dramatists.] London: Dent; New York: Macmillan. 45c.
The Art of Conversing; or, Dialogues of the Day. F. Warne & Co. $1.
The Encyclopædia of Sport. Parts V. and VI. Putnams. Each $1.
Vincent, Prof. M. R. Commentary on Philippians and Philemon. [International Critical Commentary.] Scribners. $2.
Warman, Cy. The Express Messenger, and Other Tales of the Rail. Scribners. $1.25.
Young, A. H. Author's Readings. F. A. Stokes Co. $1.25.
Zola, Emile. Lourdes. 2 vols. New edition, revised and corrected. Macmillan. $2.

HENRY HOLT & CO.,
NEW YORK AND CHICAGO,
HAVE JUST PUBLISHED
Kingsley's Elements of Comparative Zoology.
With abundant laboratory work. 344 pp, $1.20 *net.*
Prof. D. S. Kellicott of Ohio State University: "This one, I have no hesitation in saying, is the best thus far for High Schools. . . . Of course its matter is reliable and up to date."
Prof. Alvin Davison of Lafayette: "I consider it a terse, clear, concise, and accurate up to date work, better adapted for beginners in zoology than any book I have yet seen. We shall make use of it in Lafayette."
A New and Greatly Enlarged Edition of
Hall & Bergen's Physics.
A text-book and laboratory manual, including Harvard experimental requirements and much else. 596 pp. $1.25 *net.*

JUST PUBLISHED.
Crooked Paths
A NOVEL.
By FRANCIS ALLINGHAM.
Crown 8vo, $1.75.
LONGMANS, GREEN, & CO.,
91-93 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Yale Mixture.
A GENTLEMAN'S SMOKE.
You won't know the luxury of Pipe-Smoking until you use Yale Mixture.
A two-oz. trial package, postpaid, for 25 cts.
MARBURG BROS.,
The American Tobacco Co., Successor,
Baltimore, Md.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED